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We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications; and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

It was generally inferred last week since the public was in a greater hurry than either Russia or Japan that some serious check had occurred in the peace preliminaries. This week we are asked to believe that the progress has been considerable. On Tuesday it was reported that the American Government had been informed by both nations that plenipotentiaries will reach America within the first ten days of August. Thus even if everything goes as smoothly as is suggested, the meeting would scarcely take place till well on in August; and considering the progress of events in Manchuria the date may happen to be of vital consequence. In Tokyo the committee of the constitutionalist, as well as the progressive party apparently, have outlined terms of peace which would make any peace impossible for an indefinitely long time. These terms include indemnity, cession of territory and a final settlement of the Korean and Manchurian questions.

In answer to Lord Lansdowne's protest against the sinking of neutral vessels, Count Lamsdorff has handed to Sir Charles Hardinge an instruction from the Russian Admiralty, which the British Admiralty are asked to convey to the stray Russian cruisers. Three neutral vessels the "S. Kilda" the "Ikhona" and one Danish vessel have been sunk since the destruction of the Baltic fleet, and the more detailed accounts of the sinking of the "Ikhona" by the "Terek" gives no better reason than an alleged instruction from Admiral Rojdestvensky for the extreme measure. It is a little ludicrous that we should be again the messengers, the more so since the "Dnieper", the worst of the offenders, is to be instructed for the second time. She was first so sought out and instructed by British cruisers after her excess of duty as the

volunteer cruiser "Peterburg". But the suggestion is at least a test of Russian desire to stop the practice, and the method is likely to be the quickest.

Outbreaks, worse in some of their features than any during the last year, have been reported from different parts of Russia. The first account came from Poland. At Lodz, where the loss of life was greatest, the Jews in association with a union of workmen appear to have decided on retaliation against the Cossacks for some violent acts of suppression in the previous week. Street fighting in its worst aspects continued for several days. Streets were barricaded and defended by many thousand workmen; the rifle fire of the troops was answered by missiles and even vitriol thrown from roofs and windows, but it appears that very few of the rioters were armed with rifles. News from Lodz has been severely censored, but it seems certain that five or six hundred people, amongst them many women and children, were killed and many more wounded. Several bombs were thrown among the troops, but their losses do not appear to have been heavy.

The news from Odessa, the other centre of agitation, is more ominous. A small strike was suddenly stimulated to activity by the arrival of the "Kniaz Potemkin" with a mutinous crew on board. In revenge, it is said, for the death of one of the sailors they had killed most of their officers at sea and on arriving threatened to bombard the town. The mutiny spread to a transport ship and it is said to some torpedo boats. As soon as the crews landed great numbers of strikers broke out into open riot, and for the first time in any of the agitations incendiarism became rampant. Most of the wharves appear to have been burnt, the town is described as wrapt in smoke, bombs have been exploded, and the street fighting, during which a body of Cossacks are said to have been bombarded from the ships, has resulted in a loss of life estimated in some accounts at 2,000. According to the latest news the military were rapidly reducing the town to order and Vice-Admiral Kruger had started from Sevastopol with four warships to bring the mutinous vessels to order.

The German note replying to M. Rouvier's long exposé of the claims of France in Morocco was

communicated on Tuesday. Some inkling at any rate of its contents has escaped through the semi-official channels of which German diplomacy makes a very scientific use. The conference grows more likely. Germany no doubt adheres to her approval of this device and M. Rouvier is not unlikely to withdraw his objection. After the old simile of which Aristophanes was so proud, there is good eel fishing where the mud is stirred; and conference or no conference Germany means to get profit out of the Moorish muddle. French diplomacy is slowly coming round to the view that, after all, unattached efforts of German diplomacy may be more dangerous than the decisions of a conference, which is bound to pay a certain amount of respect to French agreements with England and Spain.

The visit of the Second Division of the Cruiser Squadron to Leghorn under the command of Rear-Admiral Prince Louis of Battenberg, which has been summarily dismissed by the news agencies, has really been an event of gratifying importance to Englishmen. The sailor when he is not fighting should be going about promoting peace, and the only way he can do so is by getting himself liked. Prince Louis has that gift in a supreme degree: his fine intelligence, his genuinely warm heart, make him easily first favourite in every foreign port at which he calls. The town authorities have lunched him; the Ministry of Marine has dined him; the rising Leghorn Spa (*Acque della Salute*) has had him to afternoon tea. He has visited the busy Leghorn industries, and invited the Leghorn coral girls to eat ices on his flagship; he has frequented the open-air *Arepa* like any good Leghorn "popolano"; he has taken his middies to the Marionettes like any good Tuscan "babbo"; and he has been up to see Our Lady of Montenero like any good Leghorn "marinaro". The country has reason to be proud of the Rear-Admiral; wherever he takes his ships the English Navy is well liked, and the force which makes for peace is not less important to England's well-being than the force which defends her in war.

Apparently "the great appeal of a great soldier" is in danger of resulting in a great failure. It is now about three weeks since the "Times" devoted two columns to advertising in its latest style Lord Roberts and his appeal for funds to form rifle clubs throughout the land. Sufficient time has therefore elapsed to enable some idea to be formed of the popularity of the scheme. Amongst military men the statistics available up to date are very remarkable. Messrs. Cox & Co., who practically monopolise the banking business of the army, almost at once exhibited in the entrance-hall to their premises in Charing Cross a list inviting subscriptions. Only a few days ago not a single name had figured on this list; and Messrs. Cox have some 15,000 clients! It is not rifle clubs that will save this country.

The reference and personnel of the Royal Commission on the sale of stores in South Africa were published on Monday. The terms suggest that the Butler committee is as much on its trial as the officers and the contractors. And that is so. The commission is instructed to "investigate the allegations made in the report of the Butler Committee, to report on all circumstances connected with contracts, sales and refunds to contractors in South Africa after the conclusion of peace, and upon any previous transactions which may throw light on them; and further to report on the responsibility of the persons concerned whether in this country or in South Africa". The important point of the constitution is that a judge of the High Court, Mr. Justice Farwell, is appointed chairman. The other four members are Sir George White, Sir Francis Mowatt, Sir G. Taubman Goldie, and Mr. Samuel Morley. Sir George White we all know. Sir Francis Mowatt was permanent secretary to the Treasury, and Mr. Samuel Morley is an ex-governor of the Bank of England.

The debate on the vote of censure was useful only in one respect. It enabled Ministers to explain that the financial loss to the country over all these transactions was far less than had been generally supposed. In every other way the debate was mere

waste of Parliamentary time. It has cleared up nothing and could clear up nothing, as the Opposition very well knew. The culpability of any Minister in the matter must depend entirely on his relation to and transactions with subordinates; and that involves two parties at the least to every issue. Obviously all that Ministers could do was to give their version of the story; their subordinates could have no opportunity to give theirs. So that the Opposition, while pretending that they were desirous of bringing out the truth in the interests of justice, were simply getting put before the public what must be, and what they knew must be, a one-sided statement.

It is only before a judicial commission that the case of the subordinates of the Secretary of State can be put fairly; and if the Opposition had cared one straw for justice, they would carefully have avoided any discussion that might prejudice the interests of men who could not speak for themselves. Instead of that they did just the opposite, actually calling on Ministers to give the names of the inferior officials alluded to. Happily Ministers had the elementary sense of fairplay which the Opposition entirely lacked. A great injustice has already been done to the several parties who have been charged in the Butler Report with grave malpractices, without being heard themselves and on only a small portion of the evidence relevant. To drag more names before the public in this way, as the Opposition wanted, would have made things worse than ever. Henceforward no decent person will discuss the case against parties involved in this business in any way until the evidence has been threshed out before the Commission.

It is pretty evident that the Opposition felt that they were engaged in a somewhat dirty job, for all their best men fought shy of it, unless we must except Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, who indeed wound up the debate only because Mr. Morley left him in the lurch. Mr. Morley preferred to be out of this business when it came to the scratch; as did Mr. Asquith, and Sir Edward Grey, and Mr. Bryce, and Mr. Haldane. We should doubt if there has ever been a vote of censure supported so badly from the front bench whence it emanated. In their party tactics in the House the Opposition are quite contemptible. They have once more shown their numerical feebleness; they have tried to compromise necessarily silent parties, who will not forget it, and they have shown that they regard an unpleasant business of the gravest national concern merely in the light of an opportunity for party polemics. The truth, of course, is they thought that in the disturbed state of public feeling prejudice would run high against the Government; and that they would lose the chance of exploiting this prejudice if they waited for the Commission to bring out the truth, which might dispel the prejudice altogether.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, we notice, has just been writing of the House of Commons as quite a place for "loafers". It is a perfect forcing-house for them. It would be startling if we could have some account of the many able men whose careers have been ruined by the House of Commons. The proceedings this week, last week, any week, have encouraged loafing, lobbying, drifting about aimlessly, in those who attend regularly, and yet are practically out of the debates. In fact the more the private member of Parliament does his duty the more likely is he to become a loafer. It is impossible to work at the House, as Mr. Birrell has pointed out. At any rate it is impossible to concentrate on work in such an atmosphere. The only thing to do between the divisions is to scribble letters, turn over papers, slope about the lobbies, smoke and gossip on the Terrace, and entertain constituents in the Central Hall.

Years of such a life undo many a good man perhaps. It seems a pity that members cannot, ordinarily, go to the House when it meets, record their votes then and there on the bills and resolutions that are to be taken during the sitting, and forthwith depart unless they wish to stay and speak. The vote first, then the speech, may sound unreasonable, like verdict first then evidence.

But it is not really so, because the vote no longer depends on the speech. Questions are answered beforehand on paper: why should not votes be given beforehand in the same way? Indeed in the case of "a pair" they in effect actually are.

If anyone desires a striking lesson in the humours, or the farce, of representative government, he will find all he can want in a mere recital of the grand total of the Dutch general election, now concluded. The Second Chamber consists of one hundred members, who resolve themselves into seven groups as follows: 25 Catholics, 15 Orthodox Protestants, 24 Liberals of the Left, 10 Liberals of the Right, 8 Historic Christians, 11 Liberal Democrats, and 7 Socialists. On what physiological principle this fissiparous creature divides it is very hard to see. Why is not a Catholic an "Historic Christian"? If the Liberals of the Right and of the Left respectively differ only in the side of the House on which they sit, could they not compose their differences by all sitting on one side? Or would that upset the ship altogether?

Mr. Chamberlain must have found it very congenial work addressing the members of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association who are at present on a visit to this country. He was not the missionary in partibus infidelium, but the authorised representative of the true gospel by which this country and the Colonies are to be re-created a consolidated empire. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association advocate the adoption by Canada of a preferential policy, and they believe that Mr. Chamberlain's proposals would be beneficial to the empire. They are quite content to leave Mr. Chamberlain to fight the party fight here; they "do not pretend to say that England must do" what they believe would be the best to do; and Mr. Chamberlain took care not to compromise them by making what his opponents would call a party speech. But they believe with him that the true policy is to double-tie the sentimental knot with a cord of commercial interest.

Everything points to an early dissolution in Australia. The Governor-General opened the Commonwealth Parliament on Wednesday with a speech so short that it is regarded as a mere step to the dissolution. Mr. Deakin has now declared emphatically against what its promoters call the anti-socialist policy, a policy of pure individualism, which the Prime Minister has carefully elaborated and energetically proclaimed in opposition to Mr. Watson and the Labour party. Mr. Reid thinks that the Labour party is ruining Australia by seeking to nationalise every means of production and distribution and by restricting immigration. He denounces as "pure robbery" what Mr. Watson and his friends designate socialism. Mr. Deakin has come to the conclusion that the bogey of Mr. Watson's socialism is less harmful to Australian interests than Mr. Reid's free trade. In association with the Labour members on Friday he succeeded in carrying a vote of no confidence in the Government by 42 votes against 25.

Australian politics remind us of our own Aliens Bill which began its Committee stage on Tuesday, but is not making the progress that is necessary if it is to become law this session. It is to be hoped the Government will take matters in hand more determinedly and not pay so much deference to so many of the factitious amendments moved either by shipowners in their trade interests or by mere jeerers at the bill who profess to find absurdities in words that are quite intelligible and practical. The most useful part of the Committee's work on Clause 1 referred to the fact that it would be still quite possible for undesirables to find their way in, in bodies of less than the number of twenty at present fixed by the bill, at ports other than the eight scheduled, at which alone a system of inspection is provided, and where ships with more than that number must go. The Home Secretary, although he would not accept Mr. Claude Hay's amendment providing that immigrants should not land anywhere without leave of an immigration officer, was induced to promise that the number exempting shippers from going to a scheduled port should be reduced.

Also he came near to an admission of the principle of the amendment in pointing out that the scheduled ports would have to be altered from time to time according as the traffic changed from one port to another. Rejection on board ship without landing is properly provided by the bill, but there are certain disputed cases where the shippers are to be allowed to clear their ship and land the immigrants conditionally. This gave rise to the utterance of small jokes about an immigrant being both landed and not landed, which wasted a good deal of time. The shippers tried to put the expense of providing accommodation on national funds but the attempt failed. Mr. Asquith exercised his ingenuity in discovering difficulties of dealing with immigrants conditionally landed. For instance if one escaped. But the bill provides for security being given by the master of the ship for the aliens he is allowed to land conditionally.

Excepting conditional landing the Government has stuck to its own drafting. But they have promised to consider Mr. Austin Taylor's amendment providing that an immigrant who takes a ticket here shall not be refused readmission, if he is refused admittance say in America. It is very dangerous to tamper with the bill in this respect. Mr. W. Rutherford mentioned that in 1904 no fewer than 2,700 men who had taken tickets from Liverpool had been sent back from the States and Canada, and lunacy had increased largely in Liverpool owing to this very class. Mr. Atherley Jones' amendment to make the investigating body a legal tribunal instead of the special body in the bill was defeated. The dangers so much expatiated on are mostly imaginary. There is no need for a court such as decides extradition cases. Talk about Mazzini is nonsense.

The promised trust of societies occupied with reform in physical education was formed and celebrated at the Mansion House on Wednesday. We hope it will be better than its inauguration. It was not wise to introduce a national league through a group of professional orators whom everybody has heard ad nauseam. The organisation has been going on for some time, and its originators at any rate have shown themselves free from fads. The best ideas have come from the doctors, especially Sir William Broadbent, whose common sense has done as much for the world as his medical knowledge. They have insisted that physical fitness is the issue of general training, moral and physical; and as such is the first duty of government. It depends principally on the proper feeding and housing of children. We understand that one of the first efforts of the League will be to urge the duty of national instruction in the rudiments of maternal duties.

The success of the London County Council's Thames Steamboats arrangement is no longer in doubt. We have tried it twice already, and can recommend anybody who wants to have a long day on the river for about twopence to do the same. On Tuesday we took two tickets from Charing Cross pier to Cadogan pier. It no doubt would have been a long and healthy day, only we had to change at Westminster Bridge pier, and wait for a Chelsea boat. There was no sign and no news of this boat, so after questioning one or two perfunctorians, who seemed to have no special information on the subject, we left the river and took a cab. Next day a second expedition was undertaken—from Cadogan pier to Charing Cross. Tickets, it was announced, should be taken "at the other end". All went well so far as the pier at Westminster, after which the boat did not stop till it reached London Bridge.

It is rather tantalising to be carried to London Bridge when you have made plans to alight at Charing Cross and keep an engagement at a certain hour. It is exasperating to hang about London Bridge at the appointed time, miles from the appointed place, whilst three or four boats including your own manœuvre about the pier. But it all makes for a long and healthy day on the river. Who are the members of the Council who have brought their great abilities as business men to bear on this Thames steamboat problem? We think that the names of these masters of efficiency ought to be printed and set up on every steamboat and pier.

They are probably equipped to solve the whole problem of London locomotion on similar lines. They ought to be allowed to take over the cabs, omnibuses and trams within the Metropolitan area. We like the originality of the thing—the power to book your passage “at the other end”, and to travel express when you believe—having no reason in the world to believe otherwise—that you are stopping at each station. Travel in England under the management of the London County Council should regain some of its lost charm and adventure. But there appears to have been no “accidents” to speak of so far. One steamer only—named “Ben Jonson”—is reported to have struck a pier and damaged the wood, quite a small affair.

The Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Park Royal this week—the last throw upon which the Society has staked everything, perhaps even its own existence—has failed even more disastrously than before to secure the attendance of the London public. And yet nothing had been spared to make the show a success, the prize money had even been increased, and probably the most wonderful lot of live-stock ever assembled in one place were brought together; the weather on the first two days was fine and the show had been well advertised. The King had restored his patronage to the Society, Sir Jacob Wilson was back in his old post as Honorary Director and showed no loss of his old infectious energy.

Even the quarrels in the society might have been supposed to be quieted. Yet we fear the poor attendance from the country represents a feeling of dull resentment on the part of the mass of farmers. But great as the failure of Park Royal may have been financially, from every other point of view it deserves to continue; indeed it will be to the best interests of agriculture and of the Society that it should continue on a smaller scale and on a more select and specialised basis perhaps, but retaining its essential feature of the great national showground of British live-stock. The foreign and colonial buyer already appreciates the show and were it for his sake alone, it would pay English agriculture to keep Park Royal alive. The problem before the new council which will be elected in August is how to get out of the rut of enormous expense into which the show has fallen.

The Scottish Home Industries Association would seem to be full of vigour, to judge from the success of the gathering at Stafford House on Monday last. In fact it is now so well established as to be able to pursue a course of quiet utility. These Harris and Sutherland homespun have become a genuine and important trade; it is no industrial amusement, as many so-called home industries, of course, are. Indeed it is so real a trade that it is more than unpleasant to think what would happen to very many of the people of the outer Hebrides if it collapsed. Their life is a hard one at best, but this trade keeps them at least from misery. No doubt a free-trader would say that the Duchess of Sutherland was an economic sinner in doing what she has done to promote this hand-weaving in her Scottish “sphere of influence”: a sad case of protection. We trust she will go on sinning, and save this trade from being crushed out by inferior mill-woven imitations. At any rate her hard work has already produced results that justify confidence in the future.

The most interesting item in the Birthday Honours list, which we are glad to see contains no new peer, is the Order of Merit for Mr. Meredith. It is a bold, and to speak plainly a rash, thing to single out any living person for the distinction of merit. Probably a hundred years hence the study of the recipients of the Order of Merit will provide a most piquant diversion for the cynic. But Mr. Meredith should stand the scrutiny even of a hundred years. And Mr. Holman-Hunt, there is merit about him too. But think of Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema a hundred years hence! Nobody however will think of him. We are glad Dr. Warre has his C.B., and if Mr. Julius Wernher cares to be a baronet, of all the South African magnates he is certainly the best. We hope the honour was endorsed “for having the good taste to collect old ivories.”

THE FRANCO-GERMAN WAR SCARE.

THE past week has seen an interchange of notes between Berlin and Paris, and the German note, we are told, was distinguished by “exquisite politeness”. Students of diplomatic history will not fail to remember that German communications have not always been so distinguished, but after all the point is what the contents of the note were rather than its form, and we know quite enough to be sure that the French demands as to the preliminaries have not been conceded. And in this matter Germany surely has common sense on her side. Can a greater absurdity be imagined than the solemn initiation of international pourparlers with regard to a matter settled beforehand. Germany objects to certain agreements that have been made between France and other Powers by which the future of Morocco was to be left in the hands of France. She therefore, through the Sultan of Morocco calls Europe and the United States to a Conference the basis of which is to be that the agreements already made are to be recognised. This appears to be the French contention, but it cannot hold water for a moment. It would only be accepted by Germany if the Conference were to be held in order to save her face, but that is not at all the political position, as the whole world recognises. The true position is that Germany demands a voice in regulating the future of Morocco, and she will have her way either through a Conference or independently. This much is certain, for France has already receded from her original claim; and it seems quite clear that she will in the end accept a Conference with some verbal recognition of her specially privileged situation in the Moorish empire which may mean little or nothing. It is France who has to save her face as best she can.

As we have pointed out before, France lost her chance when she allowed many months to go by without moving in Morocco. This point is emphasised by M. Millet, formerly the French Resident in Tunis, in the current number of the “Revue Politique et Parlementaire”. France he says had no plan arranged beforehand, otherwise she would have commenced her “penetration” of that country by rendering financial assistance to the Sultan, concluding treaties with the semi-independent chiefs, and permeating the country with consuls, traders and teachers. This indeed is obvious to the merest tiro in empire-building and constitutes the gravest indictment of M. Delcassé's policy. For once that distinguished statesman does not seem to have sufficiently appreciated the power of the fait accompli in international affairs. Was he hampered at home, was France unequal to the task, or did he place too much reliance on some approaching triumph of Russia? These are the most interesting speculative points in the present dilemma but on the practical side other more urgent questions arise. The most pressing of these is not the future of Morocco but the relations between France and Germany.

It was a saying of Bismarck that in certain conflicts that party was the wiser which yielded first and France has undoubtedly shown wisdom in this matter. Being conciliatory she has retained a great deal of sympathy which may be useful, for the world in general was becoming impatient of her claim to predominance in Morocco which she had done nothing to substantiate. She had at least duties towards the Powers with whom she has contracted agreements. They have a right to demand that she shall insure security of life and property for their subjects. But Germany will now bear some of the blame of delay, and that she will cheerfully accept because her position in Morocco is no longer negligible. Whether she sought compensation for wounded amour propre or more strictly practical advantages, she has obtained what she wanted. That war was what she desired we do not believe, though this theory seems for a time to have had many partisans even in this country, while in France itself there was for a few days a veritable panic. Two reasons are given as likely to induce Germany to make war, the first that it is desirable to remove for ever the French danger while Russia is powerless, the other that France must be punished for her entente with us, in fact that we must be injured

through France. The former cause might, it is true, be justified by policy if by nothing else but the latter could not plead even policy in its support. If Germany on any ground made an unprovoked assault upon France, she would have against her the sentiment of the civilised world. Of this she is perfectly well aware; but even if her statesmen be as cynical as it pleases our Teutophobes to picture them, they are hardly likely to advance as their apology to the world that they are really punishing us, though France receives the blows. This would be to play the part of Scapin to little purpose. Because in fact we should not be punished at all; on the contrary, we should benefit enormously in a material sense. A war between France and Germany must inevitably serve our trade, as it did in 1871-72. It might conceivably be worth the while of Germany to risk this, if she knew that her own future depended upon crushing France while Russia could offer no help. But it is well known that France is no longer an aggressive Power and therefore no valid excuse on that ground could be proffered for a German raid on France; though Germany has shown twice, in 1875 and 1887, a disposition to take advantage of French weakness. But it must be perfectly plain to her statesmen that she would not now be permitted to reap the fruits of such an enterprise. Great Britain could not in her own interests suffer France to be crushed by Germany, any more than she could suffer Germany to be crushed by France and Russia. It is as vital to us to-day as it was in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries that something in the nature of a balance of power in Europe should be preserved.

It is, in fact, quite unnecessary to believe that Germany intended to make war on France in order to explain recent events. Germany has no doubt created the panic that she desired, but she did so because she thoroughly understood the position of the French Government, which is peaceful because it is well aware that war in any case means the overthrow of the Republic. If a war were unsuccessful, defeat would be attributed to the shocking mismanagement of the national forces, which has been part of the policy of recent Ministries, and the present régime would perish amid universal ignominy. If unexpected victories were won, the victorious general would undoubtedly overthrow the existing political system, which is odious to army and navy alike. Therefore only the most brutal provocation would drive France into war, and there is no evidence that Germany will be guilty of such an act of criminal folly. And, after all, such a venture would be foolish as well as criminal; for neither army, as it at present exists, has had any experience of actual warfare under modern conditions, and there is nothing inconceivable in the idea that a great general might arise on the French side to upset the best calculations founded on probability.

As things now stand, the German Government may well gain all it wants without any danger of war. If France renounces all right to control the Moorish finances, foreign policy or army, as is suggested, we fail to see the advantage to her of a "privileged position" which gives so little. Indeed her claim thus becomes farcical. And on the other hand if she will not send an expedition to create some kind of order in the country, other governments must intervene to protect their own subjects. A Conference in fact will soon become the only safe way out of a position impossible for all parties concerned.

THE ARMY STORES COMMISSION.

THE South African "Stores" episode has resolved itself entirely into a party question. Both sides have ranged themselves as Sir William Butler's supporters or opponents; and the voting in the House of Commons and the leading articles in the daily newspapers emphasise the party character the controversy has taken. Almost daily there is increasing evidence of haste and prejudice; which, considering the constitution of the Butler Committee, is not surprising. It is now clear that its composition was essentially faulty. It was really a one-man committee—Sir William Butler and two obscure and comparatively junior officers. Added

to these, however, there was a member of the financial branch at the War Office, who had been sent to South Africa to audit "supply accounts"; and who was consequently to some extent interested in the finding, both on his own and his colleagues' account. The report and the evidence make it plain enough that the committee, or its predominant member, started work in anything but a judicial frame of mind; and that they were determined to hang someone—for preference Colonel Morgan. Hence they jumped to conclusions, unwarranted by the evidence. It is distinctly unfortunate that few members of the general public will read the minutes of evidence the blue book containing which costs 4s. 3d. They will on the contrary form their opinions on the report, which costs 4½d., the salient features of which they can also obtain from the daily papers. Various motives, too deep to be yet fathomed, seem to have swayed the only two members who count—Sir William Butler and the War Office official, who, through familiarity with War Office procedure, took a position on the committee which was unwarranted by his rank or attainments. Sir William Butler is a strong Radical and—it is said—prospective member of Parliament. He is also one of the few soldiers who is a strong partisan of Home Rule and extreme Radical views, although he has strong Imperial aspirations. Had his thunderbolt upset the Government his position with his party would have been greatly enhanced; whilst it must be remembered that Lord Rosebery has strongly advocated the appointment of a military War Secretary. Did the game come off, the prize was well worth having; and we must recollect that the only other military competitor for the post in the Liberal ranks must be ruled out of court, although he displayed high administrative qualities at the War Office as Adjutant-General. After carefully studying the report, we fail to find any good points in it. The form is as bad as the substance. Indeed we have no hesitation in saying that the report is in its wording the most undignified public document we remember seeing. It abounds in vulgar abuse and invective, and insidious innuendo, in which claptrap is interspersed.

Mr. Brodrick and Mr. Bromley-Davenport maintain that the losses to the public have been grossly exaggerated; and this seems likely. Anyhow Mr. Brodrick clearly proved a presumptive case of haste and injustice. We must regret the aspersions already cast on Sir Neville Lyttelton in the House of Commons and the press. It is true that he was in command in South Africa at the time. But that was a time of the greatest difficulty. There were many complicated and pressing matters to settle, as is always the case at the close of a great war. Thus the general in supreme command could not possibly have the time to enter into all questions personally. Moreover in connexion with this particular matter of sales and refunds, Sir Neville Lyttelton had by his side responsible financial advisers from the War Office; and it was surely the business of these officials to inquire into such matters, and to keep him posted. They appear, however, to have done nothing of the kind; and it is significant that no reference to these financial advisers appears throughout the report. Still we must remember that all irregularities appear to have been exaggerated in the report; and that, as Mr. Brodrick contends, careful investigation is likely to prove that they are not nearly so bad as they have been painted. Thus, pending the report of an authoritative commission, we can only repeat our warning to the public to reserve judgment, especially in the case of Sir Neville Lyttelton. This officer was called before the committee at a late date in its sittings; and propounded various haphazard conundrums concerning events which had happened some three years previously. But it is obvious that no man's mind—especially one who has since been engaged on very different and important work—could possibly recollect details at that length of time. So his evidence is colourless and of little value. It cannot be said that he has made a brilliant Chief of the General Staff, or that he has been strong enough to keep in order General Douglas, the Adjutant-General, to the great detriment of the army. In fact as principal military member of the Army Council he has not

received loyal support. Still he deserves justice, which he has not yet had; and we emphasise this point, because there seems to be a tendency, we had almost said plot, to make him the scapegoat.

If the truth is to be arrived at, the Royal Commission now appointed seems likely to achieve it. It might perhaps be said that one of the comparatively few able Common Law judges we have would have been better qualified to preside, because his experience would have been more human and varied than that possessed by one of his Equity brethren. Nevertheless we feel sure that Mr. Justice Farwell will make an excellent and impartial chairman. The other civil members could not well be improved upon. Everybody knows, or thinks he does, Mr. Morley. To the public Sir Francis Mowatt is not well known; but as Permanent Secretary to the Treasury and in other offices he has had a long and distinguished career. Perhaps a younger and more business-like military member than Sir George White might have been selected. Still the fact that his active military career has closed, and that he has already attained the highest possible rank in the army, ensures his independence. The terms of reference are wide. The commission is to report on all circumstances connected with contracts, sales and refunds to contractors in South Africa after the conclusion of the war; and on any other transactions which might throw light upon them. Lastly the duty which is cast upon them to assign responsibility both in this country and South Africa, coupled with power to take evidence on oath and compel the attendance of witnesses, gives them enough scope to get to the bottom of this painful matter.

THE INDIAN COMPROMISE.

EVEN the most casual reader of the official papers concerning the Indian Army administration must be unpleasantly impressed by the strong personal element which pervades them. In the unpublished papers to which allusion is made this feature seems to have been even more prominent. It is particularly conspicuous in the correspondence for which the military authorities are responsible. It is asserted that in this particular instance the two offices concerned have been trained to unfortunate jealousy and antagonism. And though the charge is denied, these papers supply some evidence to support it. The system is said by General Elles to be that of "divide et impera". A higher authority may be found for the objections to a house being divided against itself. While deprecating even this isolated instance, we may hope that it is the only one in which the members of a great and chivalrous profession are unable to work together with the harmony and singleness of purpose necessary for the public interests. There is throughout an unhappy tendency to score off an antagonist or achieve a dialectic triumph on a point of no real importance. For instance the military member is at pains to show that to describe the existing system as one of "dual control" is a verbal inaccuracy. The real issue is whether the system, by whatever name called, stands in need of improvement and the decision should not be prejudiced one way or another by the use or abuse of a particular adjective. When the Commander-in-Chief discusses the relevancy of the terms "executive" and "administrative", he raises a point of little more than philological interest. Similarly when Lord Kitchener illustrates by a reference to Japanese victories the advantage of adopting methods in conformity with the most recent teachings of military science, General Elles wastes a page of his reply in the irrelevant attempt to show that the distribution of work in the Japanese War Department is more akin to the system he defends than the system which his opponent advocates. What he was concerned to do and nothing else was to demonstrate which of the rival arrangements is better suited to the India of to-day. The end in view can be furthered not by personal recriminations but by treating the grave questions involved as purely impersonal matters. In this respect Lord Curzon's minute must be excepted from these criticisms. If we exclude one

remonstrance which however provoked might have been happily omitted, he treats the subject with statesmanlike breadth of view and in language which is dignified as well as lucid. Lord Kitchener it must be admitted has incited a polemical attitude by the aggressive tone of his minute, which is intensified by the abruptness of his note of dissent. He is often unfortunate in his analogies and illustrations, but he has throughout adhered to his point with characteristic tenacity.

If we look at the merits of the case it seems clear that any large military question, before it is submitted to review by the civil government, must be considered by the various branches of the military department not only separately but in consultation under the supreme head of all and must be shaped to conform so far as is possible with the perhaps conflicting requirements of each branch of the army services. Till it has been hammered out on such an anvil it cannot be deemed a finished weapon. As matters now stand the branches of the military department are divided under different and unhappily rival heads and are by practice cut off from that free intercourse with one another which is necessary for despatch and from that single central control essential to unity of purpose and action. A measure initiated in the army headquarters has to pass from it and its chief, imperfectly elaborated, to be submitted to the criticism of a fresh group of officials under a different head. Any new modification has to travel back over the same course, or else the conflicting views have to be submitted for reconciliation or decision to the Supreme Government, which is more directly under the influence of the military member than of the Commander-in-Chief.

It is urged, with force, that under this system very large measures have been pushed through with celerity and without friction. Nevertheless, the opportunities for friction exist and on both sides it is admitted that it occurs and must recur. The occurrence is in fact made by either department a reason for the abolition of the other. Lord Kitchener roundly asserts that rather than continue an arrangement beset with such difficulties, he would prefer to see the Commander-in-Chief disappear.

His proposal is to collect all the various branches of military affairs in a single War Department under the Commander-in-Chief. The business would be grouped in six sections each under its own head, including a Finance Department under a Secretary who would be nominated by the Financial Department of the Supreme Government and be their representative and the adviser of the Commander-in-Chief in all financial matters. These heads of sections would form an Advisory Council and meet under the presidency of the Commander-in-Chief for the discussion and despatch of all military business and the preparation of schemes and proposals for submission to the Viceroy and his Council. In this way the work of all sections would be brought together and co-ordinated in the manner best calculated to secure thorough scrutiny and harmonious co-operation. Measures requiring higher sanction would be presented to the Viceroy and his Council as matured by the collective wisdom of the best talent of the army. The military member would disappear and the Commander-in-Chief would sit on the Council as war member.

It is scarcely denied that in the absence of overpowering considerations of general policy such a system on business grounds alone is preferable to the existing arrangement. Lord Curzon however finds that it involves a danger so serious as to overcome its manifest advantages. Deprived of the independent advice and support of the military member the Viceroy and his Council, "incompetent to scrutinise and helpless to resist", would be compelled to accept without demur every dictum of a War Department absolutely controlled by the operative head of the army. The result would be to subvert the authority of the Government of India and establish a military autocracy in the person of the Commander-in-Chief. It is on the validity of this argument that the entire controversy turns. The Secretary of State gives reasons against it of undoubted cogency, conveyed unfortunately in a despatch of unduly peremptory tone and not always expressed in language of

becoming restraint and moderation. Mr. Brodrick holds that the Viceroy will find in the power of the purse—in the support of the members of his Council—in the great authority attaching to his own position and in the controlling power of the Secretary of State ample checks on any pretensions to despotic authority which a Commander-in-Chief might set up. It is as difficult to contest his conclusions as it is to admire his methods. He omits perhaps the most weighty reason of all, the altered condition of India and her affairs, and the well-defined position now occupied by the army. There was a time perhaps within living memory when the devolution of such powers on the Commander-in-Chief would have involved the dangers which Lord Curzon apprehends. That time has changed, giving way to a new order of things. Moreover the very danger threatened by the advance of a great military Power towards the frontier, which has made army reform unavoidable, has drawn all India together in a bond of common defence. Not many years ago forces were posted to watch native rulers who are now encouraged to maintain troops for imperial defence.

On matters of general policy or where military considerations have to be tempered by civil and political exigencies the Governor-General in Council requires no military adviser to protect him against his own War Department. On the other hand in matters which are wholly and technically of a military nature, advice and proposals, matured by such an organisation as Lord Kitchener proposes, are likely to be not less but more sound than if they represented only the views of the military member. For questions of this class, subject to the overriding power of the Governor-General, the immediate military adviser, however styled, must be an autocrat. The civil administrators cannot on the hypothesis criticise him. It is useless to retain him and reject his advice. The issue is whether that autocrat should be the Commander-in-Chief representing the collective wisdom and experience of the army or a military member standing almost alone. So stated the question answers itself as the Secretary of State has answered it. It remains to add that of all the systems proposed, that devised by Mr. Brodrick is the worst. It is a compromise of appalling feebleness possessing no elements of efficiency or permanence and certain to dissatisfy all parties. The military member is to be retained shorn of his military functions and reduced to those of a sort of commissary-general. Neither in its nature or quantity will the work assigned to him require the control or justify the salary of an official ranking with those who stand next to the Viceroy. He may advise the Governor-General on points where his advice is not wanted but is disabled from offering opinions where they might be desired. He is to assist the Commander-in-Chief but is not subject to his orders. The avowed object of his appointment is to relieve Lord Kitchener of functions which he desires to retain and which in his opinion cannot be assigned to anyone else without danger to the country. The only excuse for his existence is that it is not likely to be a long one. Conceivably the protests of Lord Curzon are directed against these peculiar conditions. Whether or not he is able to secure their modification, we trust that the lofty sense of public duty which has inspired the Viceroy's whole career will lead him to accept a decision for which there is much reason, rather than abruptly lay down at an inopportune moment an office to which his qualities have added a fresh lustre.

PUBLIC v. PRIVATE ELECTRIC SUPPLY.

THE second reading of the London and District Electric Powers Bill was to come on in the House of Commons this week but has been postponed for a technical reason. This is by no means in the ordinary class of private projects that seek to be sanctioned by the legislature. It is not only one of the biggest schemes connected with the supply and distribution of electrical power and lighting, but it raises a really important question of policy. Whatever else happens, if the promoters gain their authority they will be endowed with a practical monopoly for

supplying electricity over an area of which the administrative County of London, large though it is, is only a part. Besides this county including the City of London and twenty-eight metropolitan boroughs there are included extensive areas in the counties of Surrey, Kent and Essex, which are under a variety of local public bodies. The controversy is whether all these municipal authorities are to be superseded by a private capitalist enterprise which would control the electric supply of so large a slice of the south-eastern corner of England. But the promoters so far have been successful. The bill was referred to a House of Lords Committee which reported in its favour and the battle is transferred to the House of Commons. The municipal bodies threatened have naturally hoped to arrest the further progress of the bill by persuading the House to reject it on the second reading. Clearly that is the proper occasion for raising the principle of public policy involved. The municipalities have a strong case on this head; and it would undoubtedly be better that the supply should continue to be in their hands, unless it can be shown that they neither are nor can be made capable of supplying the public at rates that are reasonable in the present stage of electric science and invention. Whether they have this potential capacity or not can only be determined by giving them time to try, under the fear of the threatened competition of or their suppression by the promoters. This rejection of the bill on second reading would secure for them; and they ought to have the opportunity.

The objections to placing the supply in private hands ought to be deliberately considered in the House of Commons. Before the Lords Committee the point of public policy was taken by one of the opposing counsel; but that is not the same thing as a general discussion in the House of Commons. The promoters are asking Parliament to take a step backwards. We have abolished the school boards and entrusted education to bodies representing wide general interests. The tendency is widespread both in London and the provincial districts to take the supply of the great services such as gas and water and tramways from private hands, and to transfer them to the municipalities or other public bodies. The most recent instance is the purchase by the Water Board and the transference to it of the powers of the London water companies. What is proposed for the supply of electricity is the direct contrary of this. Of the twenty-eight metropolitan boroughs sixteen are authorised to supply electrical energy for all purposes, and fifteen of them are actually doing this. There are, it is true, fourteen companies supplying electrical energy in London, and in all cases but one it is a general supply. Following the analogy of the Water Board, if it were desirable to supersede them it would not be done by bringing in a large private enterprise to take them over and centralise them. But the weak point of the municipalities and the companies alike is that they are too small as units to supply electrical energy as commodiously and cheaply as it would be possible to supply it on a large scale. The promoters have at least made patent this fact in a very awkward way alike for the municipalities and the companies. It may be taken as proved by the Committee of the Lords which, notwithstanding the opposition of the County Council and twenty-four out of twenty-nine London local authorities, has passed the Bill with comparatively unimportant amendments. Some of the local authorities are supplying for power purposes at one penny per unit, one even supplying somewhat lower. Generally the local authorities' prices are rather lower than those of the companies, though one of the latter supplies at about three-farthings per unit for power. But the average price paid by consumers is over twopence per unit. If electric supply were to be dealt with now it would be found that the ordinary municipal area is very much too small for providing a cheap supply. The duty would not be entrusted to the municipalities as it was under the Electric Lighting Acts of twenty years ago. Undoubtedly there would be created a great central system with an enormous capital at least as large as the £5,000,000 of the present promoters which is about equal to the capital expenditure already sanctioned by the local authorities in London on electrical undertakings.

It does not follow that this great central system and capital ought to be under private management. The advantages of centralisation and concentration of supply over a large area must be superior to the system of disconnected supply for small areas and they are indisputable. The latter system is necessarily wasteful and dear through no fault of the local authorities. There is not much to be said for areas of supply which considerably overlap and where there are already as many as three companies in competition in the same area, whilst in some cases local authorities are in direct competition with companies. The opponents say that the case for the bill is based entirely upon estimates of what the promoters will be doing in 1910. But that is natural. It must take some time for the most perfect system to get into working order and the initial expenses must be heavy for a new undertaking. The question is whether the sporadic and detached small area system can ultimately be as serviceable to the public as a centralised system serving one very extensive area. After giving all credit to the existing electrical undertakers for their strenuous endeavours to develop their business, and facilitate the use of electrical supply by reducing their prices and other means, we must still ask can they with their inevitable disadvantages do all that the public is entitled to expect, and all that is for the public good? We do not think they can. The only sound principle on which they are working is that they are acting as trustees for the community, the promoters being ordinary profit makers whose primary interests would be to make dividends for shareholders. In every other respect they are a hindrance rather than a help to the extension of the use of electricity. They belong to a primitive epoch in electric power supply and they must show in their contention with the promoters, if they are to be entitled to continue their functions, that it is possible so to adapt themselves to modern conditions as to be equal in efficiency and cheapness to anything the promoters can achieve. This is the real point in dispute; and the existing municipal authorities are entitled to have time given them for proving their actual capacity. They may find themselves incapable of doing better than they are doing unless they follow the promoters' example, and form an aggregation of all the present sources of supply and distribution, and create a general electricity board on the model of the Water Board. All inquiries into these possibilities cannot be anything but vague at present, just as the favourable forecast of the operations of the promoters must have an element of vagueness in them. But the local authorities ought not to be interfered with until they have had all reasonable opportunities of doing what they claim in the long run to be able to do. It is quite certain that if the promoters were granted their powers they would have ultimately to be bought out on behalf of the community: though there is no purchase clause in the present bill. This is an expensive process, and there is always a suspicion that the public are exploited and fictitious values given for undertakings compulsorily purchased. The rejection of the bill on the second reading is desirable at present, but it would be clearly understood that the local authorities were to be on their trial in the meantime. They will have so to organise themselves that they can offer to the public what the promoters offer and to prove that this is not one of those cases where a public body has no chance against individual enterprise.

LORD HUGH CECIL AND THE CHURCH.

IT was hardly to be expected that Lord Hugh Cecil's Ecclesiastical Bill, introduced to elicit opinion and not to pass any stage this session, would receive other than a chilly welcome from either lay or clerical assemblies. On the one hand its provisions are so revolutionary as to startle the average parson or layman into a frenzy of suspicion; on the other they are so obviously devised in the interest of the Church as a whole that they must needs be something like anathema to each of the jarring factions. The author has read "each wound and weakness" in the body eccle-

siastical too "clear"; hence he is meeting the traditional fate of the prophets.

With the spirit that inspires the measure, however, every sober and conscientious son of the Church of England who knows the facts should be in sympathy. There can be no question that our ecclesiastical anarchy is intolerable. Of course we have no desire for the iron uniformity of an Ultramontane or a Calvinistic system. Englishmen, whether of the laity or clergy, will always love liberty better than law, and no ecclesiastical system will work here that ignores this fact. Still the joint effect of mediæval anachronism, Tudor erastianism, and Protestant intolerance has been to turn liberty into anarchy and to place clergy, courts, and laity alike in a position that would be ridiculous, were it not scandalous. To see this it is only necessary to view the Church as a whole. Taine's description of the French clergy of the eighteenth century, a straggling militia largely attached to the soil and perpetually quarrelling among themselves, fits admirably our English parish priests to-day. Behind the fortress of the canonical freehold, sloth and lawlessness mock at episcopal admonitions. Worse however than rectorcraft is the deserved contempt into which our ecclesiastical judicature has fallen. In theory our modern church courts are neither scriptural nor canonical; practically they became indefensible since the world got to believe that the highest of them was capable of sacrificing law to policy. The episcopal veto, absurd in theory, is in practice our only safeguard against anarchy.

Space will not allow us to contemplate the laity. Let it suffice that they are far less obedient to Church law than the most lawless of the parsons whom they criticise. Hence perhaps it is that a body like the Canterbury House of Laymen seems not much more in touch with the deeper religious life of the country than say the London Stock Exchange. There is of course another side to the picture. The *clerus Angliæ*, we admit, remains the stupor mundi. The social work of the Church in many places is magnificent and it retains enthusiasms. Indeed if there had never been an E.C.U. or a Church Association, and Ritualists and Church Puritans had been content to exist as schools of thought, a Fabian administration would have had its advantages. With a Ritual Commission in session, and expected (we hope falsely) to deliver a stupid report, Fabian tactics are impossible. The building is old and combustible, a spark may cause a conflagration. In truth Lord Hugh has elaborated his eirenicon none too soon. The bill has three main objects; first the establishment of an elected council known as the Churchwardens' Council in each parish as a check on the incumbent, secondly the modification of the parson's freehold, and thirdly the constitution of a new system of ecclesiastical judicature on canonical lines. As to the councils we suppose that something of the sort is necessary, if ever parliamentary consent is to be obtained for the other reforms that Lord Hugh desires. It is certainly not clear that they will prove unmixed blessings. Had they been in full swing forty years ago, it is probable that we should have endured the three-decker pulpits and the black gown and missed the surpliced choirman for a quarter of a century longer than we did. However they will organise corporate Church life and create in the lay mind some faint consciousness of ecclesiastical obligations. But if these councils are to be of use, their powers must not be stinted. The bill gives them the ecclesiastical powers of the old churchwardens and vestry, the control of ecclesiastical charities, the right to levy a voluntary Church rate and to memorialise the Bishops in matters touching the cure of souls, the power to insist upon a prosecution of the incumbent before the reformed church courts, and indirectly a veto upon all ritual innovation. When however we come to consider the constitution of these councils, serious difficulties present themselves. Each council is to consist of the two churchwardens and certain councillors whose numbers will to some extent vary with population, but the ordinary council will be between five and fifteen. These councillors must be communicants and of the male sex; the churchwardens must in future also be communicants,

but the common law eligibility of women for the office of churchwarden is untouched. The electors are to be all parishioners who have been duly confirmed, who declare themselves churchfolk and who pay any rate that the Church Council may impose. Our comment on this is that in London, and perhaps other large towns, such a suffrage would produce grotesque results: Some time ago it was said that the worshippers at a certain ritualistic church at Marylebone lived in Hampstead. We believe that there are many churches in London which flourish on a voluntary system, but hardly draw a shilling from the parish in which they are situate. No doubt the parochial system is a fine mediæval ideal; none the less in modern London it is, as Bishop Creighton saw, a hopeless anachronism. To attempt to revive it would be to create a monstrosity. Lord Hugh must reconcile his scheme with the inevitable congregationalism of London. In the country the parish offers a better unit. Still even here there will be the risk that the councils will fall entirely into the hands of the squires and large farmers. It would certainly be desirable to require the election of one or two councillors from the working classes. One great merit, however, this franchise scheme does possess. It abolishes the absurd legal fiction that the Church and State in England are contemporaneous, and gives a quietus to that objectionable person the dissenting churchwarden.

The provisions in the bill which provide for the modification of the parson's freehold have we know excited a terrible fluttering in the clerical dovecots. Incumbents are to be appointed for ten years only, but at the close of the period they have a right to reinstitution, unless the Bishop can raise against them any objection which would have been valid against their original presentation. In regard to doctrinal or ritual objections, the incumbent has a right of appeal from the Bishop to the new church courts. If the sole objection is mental or bodily incapacity a pension is allowed. All this seems reasonable except on the supposition that the cure of souls is less worthy of consideration than the security of the parson's income. The notion that the ordinary Bishop will except in extreme cases use his powers is almost unthinkable; however in fairness to the parsons it might be well before adopting this reform to give them some little voice in the appointment of the Bishops who will put it in force, on which we shall speak later.

We now come to the reform of the ecclesiastical courts. The bill leaves the diocesan and provincial courts and even the Judicial Committee untouched. It however takes the sting out of their erastianism by providing that any specific question relating to doctrine or ritual shall be submitted to the Archbishops and Bishops in England and Wales. The sacred synod will have the assistance of consultants learned in theology and ecclesiastical history, each Bishop will have one vote, the opinion of the majority is to prevail, and no opposite decision of the Judicial Committee or any church court is to have weight against it. The opinion so given is to determine the point of ritual and law in any court including the Judicial Committee. The idea looks brilliant and no doubt if it had been set up in the 'seventies the ritualists would have accepted its rulings, even if it had condemned the vestments. But since then we have learnt much. At the best such a synod could only tell us what certain highly placed persons intended certain documents drawn up in 1559 and 1662 to mean. Let us have such a synod by all means; it will at least abate the worst of ecclesiastical scandals, the discredit of our church courts; but do not let us suppose that the solution of an antiquarian problem will satisfy the needs of a Church that has to serve such an age as ours. To a certain extent Lord Hugh has grasped this fact, and he meets it by enabling the Bishop, with the consent of the incumbent and churchwardens' council, so long as the doctrinal position of the Church as laid down in the Prayer-book and Articles is maintained (of which matter the synod must judge) to authorise by license any services or ornaments not enjoined in the Prayer-book, or the reverse, to vary the Prayer-book services by omission or addition, and to sanction reservation for the sick. The minority are also protected, for notwithstanding the

granting of an episcopal license six or more parishioners can force the incumbent to conduct for their benefit the usual services on any Sunday or holy day in the good old-fashioned way. We ask, will the extreme ritualists accept favours from the exercise of this curiously modified *jus liturgicum*? We fear that a few extremists will say that the use of incense is clearly laid down in the Ornaments Rubric, that they are bound by law to use it, and will scoff at the notion of a dispensation via the churchwardens' council for the performance of a canonical obligation. However, though in its present form the scheme seems somewhat crude, it is, we believe, in some constitutional exercise of the *jus liturgicum* that the best solution of our present difficulties will be found.

But the scheme really hinges on the episcopate. Some will see in this its chief weakness. We know that even in episcopal palaces there are whispers that nothing but the lax theology of the Privy Council can hold the Church together; and that if in the last century Baptismal Regeneration, the Real Presence, or Biblical criticism had been left to the Bishops, the Church would have been made too hot alike for Evangelical, High Churchman and latitudinarian. No one who believes in episcopacy as a Divine institution may take this view; still in common prudence some kind of veto must be found whereby any improper appointments to the episcopate may be checked, and we trust that Lord Hugh will give his mind to this point. This obtained, we believe that in the adoption in their main lines of the reforms that Lord Hugh suggests lies the way to a brighter future for the Church of England. At least they seem the only alternative to disestablishment or disruption.

THE CITY.

AT the close of business on Friday last the general tone of the Stock Exchange was more unsatisfactory than it has been for some time past, and that is saying a great deal. The Paris and Berlin Bourses chose the same moment to sell heavily and this action was in some quarters ascribed to some fresh sinister development in the political relations of France and Germany. Whilst dealers on this side were quite unanimous in the opinion that war was impossible in the circumstances, they were not disposed to make prices except on a selling basis and quotations were marked down in most sections of the House. The feeling of nervousness continued on Saturday, but had largely spent itself by Monday and the past week has been characterised by a somewhat firmer tone, although the stagnation of business has been reflected in lower prices on balance of most of the gilt-edged securities. International stocks are also lower, more particularly Russian Fours which have fallen 2 per cent. since the developments at Odessa became known. Japanese stocks have also receded on the rumour that a new loan will be made shortly: in regard to this statement we are informed that nothing is likely to be done until the arrival of the Japanese Financial Commissioner who is now on his way from the United States but there is substantial reason for the belief that the preliminary arrangements for an issue are being made, although whether it will take the shape of a new 4 per cent. or $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. loan is uncertain. There is some talk of the loan being in a form to liquidate the present 6 per cent. obligations, but that does not appear likely, and in any case the terms could not be made compulsory on the holders of the sixes, who would require a strong inducement to forego their special privileges: the matter is not one that need disturb the equanimity of bona-fide investors in any of the war loans which to our mind, at present prices, are among the most attractive investments on the Stock Exchange.

The improvement in tone arising from the better outlook in continental politics was further assisted by the technical position of the markets as disclosed by the carry-over. A number of weak speculators have been shaken out, and although the delivery of stock sold on Paris account neutralised to a large extent the ease which was expected in contango rates, the condition of the markets is decidedly more healthy, but with the

absence of public interest it would be idle to anticipate any immediate improvement in prices.

Outside of American rails there is virtually nothing of interest to record on the "bull" side, but in this section considerable activity has been shown, chiefly in Baltimores, Union Pacifics, and Steel stocks, all of which show substantial gains. South American railway securities have been offered, the most important drop having been in the preferred stock of the United Railways of Havana, which has lost 4 points.

The improvement which has steadily taken place in the shares of nitrate companies is likely to be still further marked if the Chilean Government assent to the suggestion which has been made to increase the note issue which now stands at \$80,000,000. The last increase was made as recently as January last when an additional issue of \$30,000,000 was made, and the natural result of such inflation of the currency was a great impetus to speculation in every form which has however subsided for the present. Should the present proposals be carried the value of the currency will be considerably lowered to the advantage of those industries which meet their expenses in national currency whilst selling their products for sterling. But such advantages can only be of a comparatively temporary nature, although the period required for the levelling process which must surely take place in prices of wages and commodities may be deferred from various causes: meanwhile the further inflation of the currency will be to the immediate advantage of the nitrate and railway companies, and we should look for a further improvement in the shares of such companies.

The feature of interest in the South African market has been the announcement that a proposal will be put forward at a special general meeting for the amalgamation of the Johannesburg Consolidated Company and the Barnato Consolidated Mines. As the meeting is to be held at Johannesburg, both companies being registered in South Africa, we fear it is unlikely that English shareholders will have much voice in the matter whether the proposal commends itself or otherwise. We cannot accept the plea put forward as an inducement that the amalgamation will considerably reduce administrative expenses as both companies have been for many years domiciled in the same office and worked by the same staff. The fact is that more capital is required and will be raised by the issue of 375,000 shares of the amalgamated companies, although the purpose of the fresh capital is not stated; we notice that a company has recently been registered in Johannesburg to acquire certain interests of Messrs. Barnato Brothers, and it may be that part of the new issue may be designed to take over a portion of the shares of this company. As far as we can form an opinion the deal is to the advantage of the Barnato Consolidated shareholders as that company's assets consist chiefly of claims of improved value and the company is not a dividend-payer: the Johannesburg Consolidated pays substantial dividends and its assets comprise real estate of considerable value in the best portions of Johannesburg, besides large interests in several excellent industrial companies.

The dividend announcements made recently and the reports to hand of the two leading breweries in South Africa form a pleasing contrast to the misfortunes which exist in our English brewery companies. The South African Breweries and Ohlsson's Cape Breweries have a combined issued capital and reserves of over £3,500,000 and this large sum is employed so successfully that the first-named company is able to declare a dividend of 22 per cent. and the latter of 40 per cent. Both companies are spending large sums in acquiring tied houses and the present commercial depression in South Africa doubtless enables many purchases to be made at relatively low prices, but we are glad to note that the Ohlsson's Brewery Company are providing for the contingency of losses arising from such transactions by the establishment of a special reserve fund. The competition which doubtless exists between these two powerful companies is presumably responsible for a larger expenditure under this head than would be otherwise entertained, but the management of both concerns is so eminently practical that the danger of a policy of competition beyond healthy limits is not likely. Whilst

however the return on reserves invested in the business is probably greater than that obtainable from other sources we should prefer to see a gradual building up of a reserve fund invested in securities outside of South Africa.

The affairs of the International Bank of London have again occupied considerable prominence in the City and although the directors have succeeded in carrying their point as regards voluntary winding-up the attendant circumstances give rise to considerable doubt whether they have acted quite fairly towards the large body of shareholders who wished for an investigation of the affairs of the Bank before agreeing to voluntary liquidation. The action of the board is more remarkable in view of their reiteration that they desired a full investigation: the names of the directorate are such that one is surprised that they should have burked inquiry as the arguments put forward in favour of voluntary liquidation without independent investigation are not convincing.

INSURANCE.

AMERICAN EQUITABLE. MUTUAL OF AUSTRALASIA.

THE controversy that has continued so bitterly and so long over the affairs of the American Equitable seems to be drawing to a close. The cause of the trouble was that one man held the greater part of the shares and had practical control of the society. The directors were dummies, the funds were employed in connexion with outside companies controlled by the chief officials of the Equitable Life and excessive salaries were paid to a few people who had the power to vote them: finally Mr. Morton, secretary of the American Navy, has been elected chairman of the board of directors with plenary powers over "men and methods". He holds in his hands the resignations of the president and the four vice-presidents to be disposed of by him as future conditions may dictate. It has been arranged that in the future twenty-eight out of the fifty-two directors will be chosen by the policy-holders. It remains to be seen how the new arrangements will work. Personally we are not very sanguine of the future being greatly different from the past, but the unseemly squabble was having an adverse effect upon the whole business of insurance in the United States and the settlement, which is perhaps as little unsatisfactory as possible, is to be welcomed, inasmuch as it will probably put an end for a time to a very unsettling state of affairs.

A report of the Committee of Directors appointed to investigate the working and the position of the Equitable contains a very strong indictment of the Tontine, or Deferred, bonus system. It points out very clearly that this system leads to extravagance, that the policy-holders have no check upon the operations of the society and no remedy when the results at the end of the Tontine period are unsatisfactory. The policy-holder "entertains hopes for nineteen years, and, if dissatisfied with the realisation at the end of twenty years, it is futile for him to protest. The incident is closed". These directors of the Equitable, abundantly familiar with the Tontine system, call it a "departure from the true principles of Life insurance" and state that it encourages extravagance and produces throughout the "official personnel a sort of moral obliqueness—a condition where personal gain seems to be at times the paramount idea". We hope the new chairman of the society will give full consideration to these remarks, and by abandoning the Tontine system go a long way towards putting the affairs of the Equitable on a sounder footing. The annual bonus plan would enable a more careful check to be kept upon the working of the society, would tend to greater economy in management and to the prevention of the very questionable investments which have been purchased by the funds, and especially by the undistributed Tontine surplus, of the Equitable in the past.

It is satisfactory to turn to another continent and find conclusive evidence of an important Life office being managed with conspicuous success in the sole interests of its policy-holders. The quinquennial valuation report of the Mutual Life Association of Australasia has just

been published. Ten years ago the liabilities were valued on the assumption that interest would be earned at the rate of 4 per cent. : five years ago the reserves were strengthened by being calculated on a $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. basis; and now the new series of policies is valued at 3 per cent. Since one large source of surplus is the difference between the rate of interest assumed in valuing the liabilities and the rate earned upon the funds, it is evident that a 3 per cent. valuation not only increases the security of a Life office but adds considerably to its bonus-earning powers.

The Mutual of Australasia earns interest upon its funds at the rate of nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, thus possessing the very substantial margin of £1 10s. per cent. per annum of the funds as a source of bonus. This colonial company thus has the benefit of the good return upon investments which can be obtained in Australia, while the management is characterised by a colonial vigour which few of the English and Scottish offices are able to equal. At the same time, and we can pay a colonial office no higher compliment, it conforms to the same principles which have made the chief Life offices of the United Kingdom the best managed financial institutions in the world. Absolute fairness to its policy-holders and the maintenance of their interests as supreme over all other considerations are the prominent characteristics. The consequence is that the policy-holders receive excellent results and the British branch of the association takes a welcome place among, and ranks on equal terms with, the best of the companies having their head offices in the United Kingdom. Until last year the policy-holders of colonial offices were not allowed rebate of income-tax on premiums paid in this country; but with the alteration of this law the disability under which colonial companies suffered disappeared. Policy-holders can now effect their assurance with the best of the colonial offices, such as the Mutual of Australasia, with the fullest confidence, not merely that the security afforded is every whit as good as that of first-class British companies, but that the results to them will be excellent and that the high traditions created by British Life offices in this country are being fully maintained by the best of the colonial societies.

THE "TIMES" BOOK SHOP.

DURING the past few months there has seemed to be a decided lull in newspaper activity. No new instances of remarkable enterprise have burst upon an expectant public. We do not know whether this may be due to a failure of ideas or to the awakening of some sort of belated conscience in the conductors of our illustrious contemporaries. Success may have something to do with it, since only the rich and successful can afford in these days the luxury of a conscience. It is easy for a rich man to develop scruples. But having first established the idea that the chief duty of a newspaper is to bring money and a title to its proprietor, it would be little short of dire disaster were the public permitted to revert to any old-fashioned notions about the responsibilities of the public press. Prestige is gone. Commercialism alone remains, and the one hope of successful commercialism is to keep ever on the move, to be continually startling the world by some new evidences of feverish activity.

Newspapers we know are no longer produced to be read but to be bought. The modern purchaser of a paper is in search not of news but of a coupon. The contents can go hang so long as the coupon is intact. By the aid of a coupon he can get almost anything from a handsome income for life to a theatre ticket or an encyclopædia. It is an admirable system, productive of pleasant results both for purchaser and proprietor. It is also capable of numerous interesting developments. There is no reason at all why the enterprising newspaper proprietor should rest content with selling his wares on the principle of the buttermilk and retail grocer. Why not enter directly into competition with them and sell butter and tea on his own? Why should not the proprietor of the largest circulation on earth have the proud privilege of supplying direct with all the necessities of life his million or so of readers? It may come. Who

knows? Of course there are the advertisers to consider, and this entry into direct competition with them might not be altogether a wise move. Besides to usurp the privileges of the retail tradesman might not quite coincide with the public idea of what is expected of those whose names are enrolled however newly in Debrett. But, without descending to what are rightly or wrongly considered the more sordid classes of trade, it should surely be possible to devise some scheme whereby the newspaper could become tradesman. Why not book shops? Books, we know, are eminently respectable. The "Times" itself which, of course, represents all that is best and highest in journalism, and which has always upheld so worthily the dignity of the press, has lent itself to the sale of atlases, dictionaries and encyclopædias. Why not, then, "Times" book shops? The idea has many merits which will readily present themselves to Mr. Moberly Bell. Mr. Hooper and he behind the counter would be very impressive.

In the first place the book shops would undoubtedly supply "a long felt want". The ordinary book shop—there are exceptions—is a depressing place. Book-sellers do not always care about their books being handled freely on the mere chance of a purchase, while most of them have neither the knowledge nor the time to assist customers who thirst for information. But with the "Times" book shop it would be quite different. Here the purchaser might browse at his will. He might even carry away the work for a week on approval and return it at the end of the period if found unsuitable. Easy terms might be arranged to suit all purses, and assistants reared on the "Encyclopædia Britannica" would be employed to answer questions on the most recondite subjects and to point the way to the higher paths of literature.

Moreover the "Times" would be in an exceptionally good position for stocking its emporiums on the most favourable terms. It would be able to bargain with the publisher. It might, for instance, arrange that for every hundred pounds' worth of books purchased a percentage—say fifteen pounds—should be taken out in advertising space in the "Times". The publishers could hardly refuse so tempting an offer for obtaining publicity for their wares. And even on the smaller transactions the great daily might manage to turn an honest penny by insisting upon the right to purchase single copies or small parcels on the same terms as larger orders. The penalty of refusal by the publisher would be the non-stocking of his wares. And what a penalty! No publisher could afford to be so handicapped. Who would not buy his books at a "Times" book shop rather than elsewhere? There would be a sort of halo of respectability about purchasing even the poorest volume from such a source. Not that anything poor in the way of literature would be likely to find a place in this distinguished store. A rigorous censorship would no doubt be maintained and it might be found necessary even to refuse admission to all volumes not duly noticed and extolled in the literary columns of the "Times". The proprietors could not, of course, conscientiously offer for sale at their shop a book which their own literary critic had pronounced to be bad. In this way the "Times" would be performing a work of great national importance. It would be aiming at the suppression of all that is unworthy and the dissemination of all that is best in literature. The project, then, quite apart from its business aspects, about which the general public need know nothing, could be commended as a notable philanthropic institution. Every volume sold at the "Times" book shop would bear the hall mark of true worth. It is easy to imagine how fathers of families, schoolmasters and perplexed mothers of precocious girls would welcome such an establishment. But such competition will be rather hard on Lady Wimborne's book shop. Could they not amalgamate? Both are sound Protestants. Why not the "Times" and Lady Wimborne Ltd.?

But there is one great anxiety that would no doubt trouble the hearts of the devisers of this promising scheme. All successful enterprises have their imitators. What if some of the other newspapers, greatly daring, inspired by the success of the "Times" book shop, should start book shops on their own? What if

the proprietors of the newspaper which boasts a "daily circulation five times as large as that of any penny London morning journal" should set up a rival show? With the advantages of their colossal array of readers they might well swamp the "Times" enterprise. And with what disastrous results! The philanthropic character of the whole scheme would at once be lost. The newcomers would care nothing about the purity of literature, about what was good and what was bad. The project would descend to the level of vulgar commercial competition. This must be stopped at all hazards. Well, there is a way and we submit it with all diffidence to the "Times". The publishers must be bound over for a period of not less than five years to supply no other paper. The advantages of the "Times" scheme should be fairly put before them, while it should also be pointed out how disastrous it would be to their interests if other newspapers were to start rival book shops. The "Times" alone is in a position to carry out adequately the suggestions we have laid down, and we confidently anticipate that before many months are past we shall have the pleasure of purchasing all the latest and best books at the "Times" book shop. And when in connexion with the shop the "Times" circulating library is set going, we shall be complete.

ENGLISH ART IN PARIS.

IT is with great satisfaction that before this picture-season ends one can put to its credit something well done over against the record of things undone or misdone. The National Art Collections Fund has been able to secure for the nation one of Whistler's finest Nocturnes, the upright "Battersea Bridge" on view in the recent exhibition. The purchase is not one which the Society ought to have had to make, but in view of the determined effort of American collectors to secure all the fine Whistlers that come into the market, it was necessary to do it, and to pay the price, if London was to be sure of any part in those wonderful visions of her own River. We must hope that some day public justice or private generosity will add fine examples of Whistler's portraiture and other lines of work. But in the meantime the nocturne is secure, thanks to the members and friends of the Fund, who have responded so promptly to its special appeal. It is to be hoped that this purchase will incidentally lead to the aims of the society becoming more widely known, and its membership increased. It has grown steadily in numbers since the beginning, and can now count some six hundred on its list; but it is obvious that to enable it to buy important works of art out of ordinary subscriptions a membership counted by thousands is necessary; a special appeal to a small number of supporters cannot be made every day.

The exhibition of Whistler's work at the Beaux Arts in Paris has recently closed. The big room, divided up into quiet bays, held the pictures and lithographs; in the ante-room and downstairs were etchings and water-colours. The first exhibition I remember here was that of J. F. Millet in 1887. Delacroix had his turn earlier. So the contested great men come by their own in the end. Many of the Whistlers seen in London were also in Paris, set against a better background than the glaring green of the New Gallery; and in addition there were pictures from the Freer, Studd, and other collections, that were not sent to the London exhibition. The two exhibitions taken together gave a complete view of the work such as we are not likely ever to see again. One had to say farewell to the lovely "Music Room", to the "Thames in Ice", the deep-toned "Bognor" nocturne, the "Princesse", "Rose Corder", and other pictures that now go their way across the Atlantic. There too was the lovely project of a Venus coming from the Sea that used to hang over Whistler's chimney-piece in Paris, but has not before been seen in public. Of the same period were four sketches, Japanese-inspired groups of women by the sea. Of the late period there were two full-length portraits of the same lady, one of them, in a black and white dress, particularly fine in the design of its lines of movement and its colour. The beginning of a full-length in red, and two

silvery marines, were also new, and substantial additions.

There, then, in the official School of art, lay the Refusé of 1863, with the flags of France at the door. At the Grand Palais in the Elysées the two Salons were in full blast, the younger now as bloated as the old. There was little in either to tempt a visitor who has seen them any time in the last five or ten years. A few masters remain, but since the Whistler-Scottish impulse of the 'nineties there has been slack-water in French painting; the exhibitions look like a cosmopolitan hotel, and people greet with a feeble tolerant gasp the more showy arrivals, like that of Zuloaga, wondering whether he is a very good or a very bad painter. The bewildered state of French taste in this, the Munich period of international bustle, is indicated by the Luxembourg purchases, where they have enriched the English school with a second Spenslove-Spenslove.

English art, in this slackening of the native forces, is very much à-la-mode, and there is great need of knowledge to temper enthusiasm. This is true not only in the case of contemporary work, but in that of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century schools, which have become favourites with the collectors. In France our school has become known in a rather haphazard order, and the greatest men are still the least familiar. Lawrence had a European reputation from the first, and his brilliance and elegance have been estimated by French taste even beyond their due. Bonington also, through Delacroix' admiration for him and the fact that he is well represented in the Louvre, has counted for more than he deserves. Constable early made his mark and won the reputation he merits. He is represented by some small works in the Louvre. There is a good head also by Raeburn, and a portrait of his some years ago at a Beaux Arts exhibition was acclaimed as the "clou" of the collection and gave him a great name. Turner excited the Impressionists when they saw him in London, but there is nothing of his in the Louvre, and knowledge of him is so small that the poorest imitations pass for his work. The same thing is true of our greatest portrait painters, Reynolds and Gainsborough. There is nothing by either in the Louvre, for the "Reynolds" recently bequeathed by the Princesse Mathilde and hung under his name, is really a good Hoppner. Two other portraits, of poorer quality, credited to Hoppner have recently been acquired, and now flank the big Lawrence of the Angersteins. The authorities of the Louvre ought to make a determined effort to acquire good examples of Reynolds, of Gainsborough, and of Turner if they wish to have the school seen in its true proportions; but they must beware of the fabrications that are being passed off in Paris in response to a demand for work of this school.

An example of this danger is the collection now on view at Bagatelle. Bagatelle is the charming little pavilion, surrounded by its private park in the Bois de Boulogne, recently bought for the public by the municipality of Paris. It was designed by Bellanger for the Comte d'Artois in 1780, and was bought some time in the last century by Lord Hertford, who built a second pavilion to hold his collections. At one time it seemed likely that these would become the property of the French nation, but they were transferred to London by Sir Richard Wallace, and by Lady Wallace's will England became the owner. Bagatelle, then, stands empty, and a spirited and ingenious project has been started for refilling it with objects of art. A "Société des Amis de Bagatelle" has been founded to organise loan collections in the building. An entrance fee of five francs on week days, one franc on Sunday mornings is charged, and the money thus taken will go to buy pictures and objects of art for a permanent collection. Gifts and legacies will also be solicited. One picture has already been given and another bought.

The idea is to refurnish the house with furniture, pictures and bibelots of the eighteenth century, and the first loan exhibition includes a charming collection of furniture, sculpture, and porcelain in the original pavilion, and a second of English pictures of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries in Lord Hertford's galleries. This collection contains a few good and

authentic works, but a warning is necessary against a large proportion of the pictures that have crept in. The names of Reynolds, Crome, Turner, Constable and others are attached in some cases to work with which they have nothing to do, in others to glaring copies in modern technique or elaborate imitations. It is impossible to indicate more exactly the good and the bad, for there is no catalogue or number, but the general vagueness is illustrated by the fact that a portrait of the most pronounced Romney type is labelled "Hoppner". However ungrateful it may seem, the City of Paris would do well to call in competent English advice where the acceptance of English pictures is concerned.

But apart from mistakes of zeal not according to knowledge, the general idea is one which in England we would do well to imitate. Our great national collections are necessary storehouses of treasures, safe, convenient for study and reference. But from the point of view of enjoyment, which is the chief end of art, they are treacherous places. How many people who go to the National Gallery, or worse, the Louvre, come away without a headache, unless they are able to put on blinders, look neither to the right nor the left, but go straight to some one or two pictures? Out of such gross collections one would like to furnish a multitude of pavilions, scattered about in parks and gardens. And wherever there is a public park or garden there should be a society of Friends of that garden, to get together a little collection and arrange for music in the gallery once or twice in the week. That way lies a little bit of civilisation in the future.

D. S. MACCOLL.

MUSIC IN SCOTLAND.

III.—EDUCATION.

THERE lived once a gentleman named Horrebow (I believe) who wrote an account of Iceland, and Dr. Johnson offered to recite from memory a whole chapter of this work. It was headed "Concerning Snakes in Iceland", and, so far as my memory serves, ran somewhat thus: "There are no snakes in Iceland". Now, in writing this series of articles on Music in Scotland I started by placing the pinnacle in mid-air: I discussed the matter of Scotland's chiefest musician, Mr. Frederic Cowen; then I went a little lower down and spoke of the concert business; and finally, this week, I come to what ought to be the foundation of a musical life in Scotland or any other country, the musical education of youngsters. Here I might easily match Horrebow or Dr. Johnson or any other writer of snippety chapters. "There is no musical education in Scotland". This statement I make in all seriousness, and were I a belligerent person I would defy anyone to prove it to be false.

To say there is no musical education in Scotland is not to say there are no music schools and academies. Like the absentee landlords in a certain part of Ireland, Scotland teems with them. Possibly there are as many music schools in Scotland as in England. But what do they avail? Consider what happens in England when Miss receives her musical education at a music school. Once or twice a week she comes up from the suburbs and goes (say) to the Guildhall School of Music; there she receives a twenty minutes' lesson, and then she goes back home to practise exercises; and after this process has been continued for some two or three years she leaves the school with a certificate and is regarded by her adoring parents as a finished musician. She can stammer her way through the easier Beethoven sonatas; she can play a few of the Chopin nocturnes and possibly one of the ballades; and if you set her in front of a fairly simple piece she has never seen before she is utterly baffled. But she has her certificate, and that and her self-confidence carry her through. Anyhow, it is comparatively rare that she has to earn her livelihood by music: generally she marries and can be relied on to torment her neighbours for the next fifty years by playing through her Guildhall school repertory every evening. But the case of the young men is quite different from the case of the young misses. The majority of young men who study music

have a more or less vague idea of gaining their daily bread by it—by teaching or playing or singing, and even in some extraordinary cases by composing. What is the value of an ordinary musical education, in Scotland or in England, to these fellows? Absolutely it has no value at all. They take their lessons for a few years, they master the rudiments of music, they come out into the world to fend for themselves, and at every point they find themselves beaten by the young foreigner. The young foreigner perhaps plays no better than they do; he knows his theory about as well; but, having lived for years in a thoroughly musical atmosphere, he has become what an Englishman rarely becomes, a genuine musician. His instincts are right and developed, while it is not common to find a Britisher with any musical instincts at all. The foreigner lives in music from his earliest years. He can hear symphonies every day of the week; he can, for a trifling sum, hear opera nearly every night of the week; if he is a stranger to the "Messiah" and "Elijah", all Richard Strauss' works are perfectly familiar to him. He has gone clean past the A, B, C of music: he has learnt to read and to write.

It is of course a platitude, but it is one in need of repetition when music is concerned, that a man's education only begins after his schooling has left off. The foreign musical student gets through his schooling very quickly and at once sets to work to educate himself. While he is still supposed to be drudging away at his harmony, counterpoint and fugue he has really finished the whole business and is hard at work learning to what fine uses these base subjects may be put. The process of educating himself is not confined to the lectures and lessons of the class-rooms: it is continued in the beer-gardens, the cafés, the concert-hall and the opera. The studies of the day are not a matter to be got through as quickly as possible nor is the music-school a place to be shunned out of school hours; for some years the school is the centre of his thoughts, the general meeting place and the place to go to when there is nothing else to do. It is in this that we find the essential difference between music-schools in this country and those of Germany. I dare say the teaching to be had in England is as good as that to be had abroad, but the pupils have not the opportunity of going straight from a lesson and finding its practical application in some piece of music played at a concert. The pupils do not foregather to discuss their art; the professors do not mix with them. The idea seems to be to get through the lessons as fast as possible and then everyone can scamper home, the school can be locked up, and peace and quiet reign. The teacher takes his fees, the pupils get their certificates, and everyone is satisfied.

Things are worse in Scotland than in England. Here we have scarcely any musical education and the professors are far too fond of getting through the day's drudgery and running home to write festival cantatas; yet during a great part of the year there are plenty of concerts to be heard and anyone who is in earnest can learn most of what the music-schools never dream of teaching. But Edinburgh has only the weekly concerts of the Scottish Orchestra and Glasgow is just a little better; while as for musical life as one finds it in Leipzig, Frankfort and other German towns, it simply does not exist. Budding composers cannot hear their own efforts tried and profit by the teacher's criticism—in fact it is as much as one can do to persuade the average teacher to look at a student's composition: he much prefers contrapuntal exercises which can be corrected mechanically without any waste of brain-energy. The consequence is that in time the pupil, however enthusiastic he may have been at first, gradually becomes as dull a dog as his professor, and for an ambition to make a great name as a composer or performer substitutes a hungry longing to win bread and cheese by teaching.

Of course there are exceptions. Scotland's music-schools do not count, and Edinburgh University with its Reid professorship does not count, but there are teachers who take a serious interest in their pupils and do all they can to encourage them and keep them on the right path. But with the best intentions in the world a single teacher in Scotland can provide nothing

to compensate for the lack of the life that goes on in the great German musical centres. The students quickly find that out for themselves and when they can afford it they go to Germany or even come to London. Take a list of the best-known Scotch musicians and you will see that none of them received his musical education in Scotland. Mackenzie, MacCunn, Macpherson, Drysdale, Lamond, all studied in London or abroad.

I don't know where the remedy can be found. Some good might come of the Glasgow Athenæum school of music if it were left under the care of Mr. Learmount Drysdale unhampered by outsiders who know nothing about music and are unsympathetic where music is concerned. It is one of the largest schools in the kingdom and any number of concerts and operatic performances might easily be organised. Something has already been done in this way but not a hundredth part of what might and ought to be done. At Edinburgh also there are possibilities. It seems a sheer waste of money to keep up the Reid professorship if the professor can do nothing more than teach students musical history which they could more profitably study at home. I know that concerts &c. are arranged, but on the most trifling scale. And at best, it will be long before either Glasgow or Edinburgh gets that musical atmosphere which every would-be musician must breathe if his powers are ever to mature. Perhaps the main hope rests with the present generation of students. Most of the older professors will say that their lessons afford a sufficient musical education for anyone. If the youngsters will face the truth and realise that there is no musical education in Scotland, they may in time find ways of improving matters. Those who become teachers can at any rate forget about examiners, examinations and certificates and instead of the eternal round of counterpoint and fugue devote some of their lessons to awakening the true spirit of music in their pupils. This, and the Athenæum school under the control of a musician—not a counterpoint-monger—and the Reid chair occupied by a musician—not an antiquary—may result in Scotland some day becoming musical.

JOHN F. RUNCIMAN.

"THE NEW FELICITY."

PEERING into the immediate future, I descry there a number of mysterious objects which, on closer inspection, turn out to be plays written in the manner of Mr. Bernard Shaw. I heave a sigh. I mutter against Nemesis, that unkind goddess who, whenever she sees an original artist becoming popular, forthwith encompasses him with a dreadful swarm of "sedulous apes". It is always quite easy to distinguish the work of the original artist from the work of his imitators. A hero's valet does not look really heroic in the suits that the hero has worn. The imitators of an original artist can but reproduce something of his surface: his substance is far from them, and they cannot cheapen it. But his surface is, appreciably, cheapened. His personal tricks of style and of construction, his personal preferences in subject-matter—these things, which, unimitated, would be still fresh to us, and delightful, become stale to us, begin to annoy us. If only the persons who have the inclination and the energy for producing works of art, without the power of conceiving anything in their own souls, would imitate purely academic models! But they won't. One and all, they fasten their fangs on *le dernier venu*; and he, thus horribly hampered, must fight his way along as best he can. Poor Mr. Shaw! Also, poor us! For I think that imitations of Mr. Shaw will be more than usually exasperating. He himself sets out not to please, but to exasperate. It is only the pleasure we get from the perfect working of that exquisite machine, his brain, and from the natural ebullience of that crystalline spring, his humour, that prevents us from being exasperated. He would like us to stone him. Instead, we make a pet of him. Were he anyone else, he would have his desire. Were he one of those imitators whom I descry in the near future, I myself should cast the first stone. Depend on it, I shall be a terror to those imitators. So soon as ever . . . Why!

What is this? Already? Yes, an imitator—the first of the imitators—under my eyes, in the immediate present. I stoop to pick up a stone.

Taking aim, I notice with regret that my mark is a woman. I might have known it would be. For not only are women the imitative sex: they are also the quicker sex—quicker to be "in the movement". And it is natural that the Shavian movement should appeal especially to them, for Mr. Shaw is so saliently their champion. But, woman though my mark is, the stone must be flung. Indeed, her sex is an added reason for the flinging, for it aggravates the offence committed. I mean that a feminine imitation of Mr. Shaw is necessarily worse than a masculine one. Mr. Shaw's art is not always human, but it is always masculine. That wonderful "grip" of his, that consistency and straightforwardness, that intellectual conscientiousness and sense of justice, are qualities which no woman could even passably imitate. And then his humour! I do not raise the old parrot-cry that women have no sense of humour. On the contrary, my experience is that women in real life have quite as much sense of humour as men—more of it, if anything. But, somehow, they seem unable to make use of it through any artistic medium. (Hence, perhaps, the fallacy that they have it not.) Women can, when they set the right way about it, do valuable work in art. They have a peculiarly delicate power of observing themselves and one another, (their observation of men is vague and faulty,) and they excel in sentiment; and when they confine themselves to sentiment, or to introspection and to criticism of one another, they do finer work than could be done, in that genre, by men. But they ought never to imitate men. And Mr. Shaw, as having pre-eminently the two qualities that in art they most lack, is the last man whom they ought to imitate. But imitate him they certainly will; and many of them, belike, will do it worse than it has been done by the first lady in the field, Miss Laurence Alma Tadema.

Like "The Philanderer", and like "Man and Superman", "The New Felicity" (produced last Sunday by the Stage Society) deals with the male amorist who dares not marry. Mr. Shaw's satire was sympathetic, and just, and therefore effective. The amorist was a human being, with average virtues, and (like all Mr. Shaw's creatures) of more than average intellect. Miss Tadema, being a woman, will not bother about justice. She cannot imagine two sides to a case. She cannot conceive that a person of whom she disapproves can be aught but a knave and a fool. And therefore her satire falls flat. Like John Tanner, Cyprien de Steyne writes philosophic books. But, whereas Mr. Shaw was at pains to write one of John Tanner's books as an appendix to "Man and Superman", in order to eliminate any chance of our not doing justice to John Tanner's intellectual sincerity, such of Cyprien de Steyne's philosophy as is vouchsafed to us is but a wild burlesque on a silly attitude. Cyprien de Steyne is purposely presented as an impostor, and as a silly impostor. His name in itself is enough to show Miss Alma Tadema's opinion of him. The mischief is that nothing at all like him exists. He is a mere figment. An amorist in real life is often conceited and selfish; and these qualities might well be shown and satirised on the stage. But when, in real life, an amorist is reproached by a lady for not having called on her lately, he does not, I imagine, say "Poor little thing! I'm afraid I have neglected you". Still less does he say "I became immersed in my work, and forgot you". Least of all does he say "You have evidently been guilty of that antiquated and reprehensible custom of falling in love". Yet this is how Cyprien talks to Miss Evangeline Percival. To explain the bearing of the last speech quoted, I must explain that Cyprien merely desires Miss Percival to give him a measure of intellectual companionship. He does not make love to her, though she is very attractive. In real life, certainly, there are men who never demand of attractive women more than a stimulus to the brain. But Cyprien is not one of these men. Miss Tadema has chosen to make him a sensualist. A girl has been seduced by him, and has borne him a child. By way of explaining to us the discrepancy between his present: and his past, this girl, who is now a music-hall artiste;

explains to Miss Percival, in the last act, that Cyprien has had enough of vulgar women as women, and now needs only refined women as companions. But, as Cyprien is still quite young, and not an invalid, this explanation is obviously absurd. The only adequate explanation is that Miss Tadema has bungled through too much zeal. It was not enough for her that Cyprien should be a prig: he must be a scamp also. To make him credible on the stage, either he ought to make love to Miss Percival, or the music-hall artiste ought to be eliminated. No man is two different kinds of men. Cyprien must be one kind or the other. In fact, Miss Tadema cannot have it both ways. To have it both ways is exactly what a woman always demands in an argument. That is the main reason why a woman can never write an effective satire. Without justice (or, at least, a plausible semblance of justice) no satire can succeed. And the reason why women are unjust is not any innate deficiency in sense of fair play—not any unscrupulous desire to falsify an issue: the reason is merely lack of intellectual grip. I don't pretend that the vast majority of men have not this lack: I say merely that every woman has it. And in this lack you find not only the reason why no good satiric play can be expected of a woman. You find also the reason why no good play of any kind can be expected of her. A good little poem may be built up on sheer sentiment; a good short story on sheer observation. (Both these qualities appear, from time to time, in "The New Felicity".) But a play must have solid brain-work behind it. Otherwise it falls to pieces. Miss Tadema's play has from the outset no real substance to suffer disintegration. But let us suppose that it has real substance. Let us suppose Cyprien to be a real character. At the beginning of the last act, what has to be solved is the future of Miss Percival. Will she, or won't she, dismiss Cyprien from her life? She knows that he has had a child by the music-hall artiste, Miss Carrie Gilmour. She goes to see Miss Carrie Gilmour. We have learnt, in the second act, that she despises Cyprien, though she is in love with him. Miss Gilmour assures her that Cyprien is despicable, and applies to his conduct the weird explanation which I have already described. Exit Miss Percival, determined to have done with him, merely because she has been told one thing that she knew already, and another thing which no woman (unentangled in the task of dramaturgy) could possibly believe. So much for the last act, as the termination of a story. As the termination of a satire it is not less ridiculous. After Miss Percival has gone off, enter Cyprien, offering marriage to Miss Gilmour, who spurns him precisely in the manner of Magda. He is much relieved at not being taken seriously, and at being able to sentimentalise without fear of the consequences. He is also delighted to see his child, whom he pronounces to be the image of himself. So far, so good. But then he takes the child on his shoulder, and dances round the room; and on that tableau the curtain falls. Now, it stands to reason that the ending of a satire ought to be relevant. It ought, indeed, to suggest sharply the author's summing-up. Are Cyprien's paternal gambols merely irrelevant? Did Miss Tadema finish her play at a chance moment, merely because she was tired of it? Or did she really think that Cyprien, as father, had at last found his proper vocation—the future that Fate had ordained for him? Respectfully raising my hat, I leave Miss Tadema between the horns of this dilemma.

Mr. Conrad's short play "One Day More" . . . But of that I will say something next week. It deserves not to be dismissed at the end of an article.

MAX BEERBOHM.

CARMONA: A CITY OF THE DEAD.

THE charming little town Carmona near Seville spreads itself over part of a long hill, from whose summit it looks down on all sides upon the surrounding "vega". Along the sharp crest of one extremity of this hill lie scattered fragments of walls and fortifications, which in former times enclosed and protected

the town. To the north and east of the hill the eye travels over a flat and cultivated country which has all the dignity of a level landscape, if sufficiently extended, and this is fringed, towards the eastern horizon, by a snow-topped chain of mountains, enclosing the famous city of Granada. The hill is saddle-shaped; and at its western extremity is the Roman Necropolis, dating from the time of the ancient city of Carmo, as the Romans named the place in their day.

The discovery of this extensive burial-ground is due to the distinguished English archæologist, Mr. George Bonsor, who, with two gentlemen of Carmona, has now excavated some four hundred Roman sepulchres, many of them highly elaborate in design and of considerable dimensions. All are cut out of the solid rock, and it has thus been possible to establish many details of the ancient methods of burial, which in other countries cannot be traced, owing to the perishable nature of the material employed. The largest is called the "Elephant tomb" from the stone figure of an elephant found in it, and which may have been an emblem of long life. Standing at its edge, and looking down into the oblong excavation, one can trace the details of the various parts of the tomb pretty clearly. At one end a narrow stairway, cut in the rock, leads down to the tomb, and descending these stairs you come to a narrow pathway running along the centre of the floor. On each side of this path, a trench about a foot wide is cut in the rock, which in former times was filled with earth, thus furnishing a soil from which creeping plants and flowers could grow up, probably over some kind of trellis-work. To the right—on the sunny side—stands the winter "triclínium", to the left of the path the summer one, shaded from the sun's rays by the side of the pit itself; and at the far end, in a cave cut out of the rock, is yet a third "triclínium" for use in rainy weather.

These "triclínia" may be shortly described as raised tables, suitably sloped, upon which used to lie the guests who feasted, on the occasions of certain annual visits to the tombs. The shape of a triclínium follows three sides of an oblong, its height is about two feet, and the guests were served from the inside of the oblong by the servants attending on them. Cushions were, of course, laid on the stone for the feasters to recline on, and the feet of the latter projected over the outside edge of the couch thus formed. A similar attitude at table prevailed in Palestine at the time of Our Lord; and when we read of Mary Magdalene washing the feet and drying them with her hair, we can realise, when standing by one of these triclínia, how easily she could do this, and how different her movements would be from the contortions which mediæval painters have vainly endeavoured gracefully to portray. Near the winter triclínium is a stone altar, over which the feasters used to pour libations, with the double object of rendering homage to the gods and conveying some of the wine and oil through a hole at the corner of the altar to the chamber below, where the ashes of the deceased and those of his family were arranged, in urns, upon the shelves of the vault. The departed spirit was thus, it was held, enabled to share in some sort in the feast of the friends who had assembled in his memory up above.

In one of the tombs which Mr. Bonsor opened up he discovered a fresco painted in distemper on the wall, the perishable colours of which, alas, but for a short while survived its exposure; he took, however, a sketch of it, when freshly discovered. The drawing was exceedingly spirited. The painting represents a party of friends and relatives assembled to feast at the tomb of one whom they had lost. They lie around on the triclínium, clad in bright colours; some of them are playing on various musical instruments, and some are raising the wine-cup above their heads, as if toasting the deceased, while, from one side, the spirit of the latter approaches them, as it were to join in the festival. The poise of his body seems to lean eagerly towards them, and he carries between his two outstretched hands, and raised high in the air, a sort of wreath or garland. The whole tone of the sketch is most pathetic, and might have suggested Lassens' song of "Allerseelen"; the drawing is full of life.

In searching the ground for these tombs it was found best to run a network of trenches here and there all

over the two or three feet of earth which cover the rock. The debris so accumulated was banked to each side of the paths thus made, and when I visited the Necropolis in April the aspect of the whole was singularly beautiful. Along the top of each bank grew a thick band of large purple and white iris, while the rest of the ground was covered with groves of almond and pear trees, at that time in full blossom. Through a gap here and there among the branches of these you got a fine view of Carmona standing up over the further end of the saddle-shaped hill, and the more distant lilacs and blues of the scene blended well with the colours of the iris beds below the trees.

Carmona contains many other interesting architectural relics of its Roman, Visigothic, and Moorish conquerors, notably the magnificent gateway which stands in the middle of the town. Through this arch passed Julius Caesar and many another mighty Roman, then the almost forgotten Visigothic chiefs, and after them the great Moorish leaders who dwelt here and in Granada after the place was handed over by Count Julian to Tarik, during the too short period of the brilliant Moorish civilisation. Later still we may fancy a great concourse grouped around our own Edward the Black Prince, who more than once came to Carmona to visit his ally Peter the Cruel.

It was at Carmona that the Black Prince received, in part return for his services to Peter, the immense ruby which now adorns the crown of our English kings. In those days there were two such rubies; the fate of the second has never been known, and many say that it never left Carmona—is still there, if only one could find it!

BARTLE C. FRERE.

MOTORING.

ON Wednesday last Mr. Soares moved for leave to introduce his bill to amend the Motor-car Act of 1903 by raising the penalty for a first offence to a fine of £20 or a month's imprisonment with right of appeal. Mr. Arthur Stanley, chairman of the Automobile Club, took the somewhat startling course of voting for the motion that leave be given Mr. Soares to introduce his bill. Mr. Stanley, whose position in the automobile world invests with special importance any action which he may take in the House of Commons with regard to motor questions, adopted this position, it is understood, not because he approves of the measure but for the reason that no unofficial member should, in his opinion, be denied the privilege of making the House acquainted with the character of legislation which he advocates. This was his sole reason for parting company in yesterday's division with members who share his views on the motor-car question. It is, moreover, his intention vigorously to oppose Mr. Soares' Bill as soon as it is introduced.

At the same time motorists in general must now realise that there is a universal desire among people who have no hostility to motor-cars to make better provision than now exists for the safety of the public. It has been frequently urged in this REVIEW that penalties should be increased for really reckless driving but while the present farcical speed limit remains in existence much injustice might be done. Motorists must, however, bear in mind that they are still greatly in the minority and that they all do undoubtedly inflict some annoyance upon the majority of the population. It has in fact been freely stated that unless some urgent measures are soon adopted to check reckless and inconsiderate driving the populace will probably take the matter into their own hands. It is a popular theory among automobilists that the prejudice against motor-cars is caused by the inconsiderate behaviour of a few "road-hogs" whose actions are condemned by all decent motorists. These "road-hogs" as a matter of fact are not so few in number as is generally believed and it will be necessary to keep them in check by some really deterrent penalties. The penalties suggested in Mr. Soares' bill are meant to be deterrent and common sense shows that the fines usually imposed at present are of no consequence to most of the people who can afford to keep motor-cars. In our opinion the proposed bill quite fails to meet the

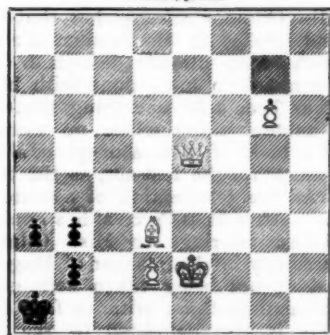
requirements of the present situation, but it serves to indicate the trend of public feeling.

Lord Windsor, the First Commissioner of His Majesty's Works, has made the following announcement: On and after 26 June until 1 August the roads in Hyde Park, except the road between Victoria and Alexandra Gates, will be closed to motor-cars and motor-cycles between the hours of 4 P.M. and 7 P.M. Such vehicles may use the direct road only between Victoria and Alexandra Gates, entering by those gates only, and must not loiter. The First Commissioner of His Majesty's Works also wishes to remind the proprietors and drivers of motor-cars that speed in the Royal parks—viz. Hyde Park, Regent's Park, St. James and the Green Park, Richmond Park, Greenwich Park, Bushey Park and Kensington Gardens—is limited to ten miles an hour; and to warn them that any persons infringing this regulation will be prosecuted. This, the most autocratic regulation yet devised to add to the burden of the harassed automobilist, has not unnaturally aroused a storm of indignation. Especially has consternation been caused among members of Parliament, many of whom have no vehicles other than automobiles and habitually make use of the roads in the Park in order to reach the House. We understand that this notice has been issued largely in response to complaints from various people who drive and ride in Hyde Park, but as a matter of fact it is quite in accord with the whole policy of the Office of Works with respect to the Royal parks. The First Commissioner has always had a theory that during the summer Hyde Park is purely a pleasure-ground, to be kept free from anything which may tend to annoy its recognised frequenters. A concession was very unwillingly granted to motorists and has now in effect been rescinded with relief and alacrity.

CHESS.

PROBLEM 26. BY O. WURZBURG.

Black 4 pieces.



White 5 pieces.

White to mate in three moves.

PROBLEM 27. By Dr. GOLD ("Lasker's Magazine"). White (6): K-KKt2, R-Q2, Q-QB4, B-Q4, Kt-KR5, P-KKt4. Black (6): K-K5, Kt-QR8, Kt-KKt8, B-QR1, B-QKt1, P-KB2. White to mate in two moves.

KEY TO PROBLEM 24: 1. Kt-Q6.

KEY TO PROBLEM 25: B-Q5.

In the following game, played at Ostend between Janowski and Tarrasch, the winner had seen an analysis published by Tarrasch claiming that black can obtain a superior position in this variation of the queen's pawn opening. Janowski saw a flaw in that analysis, and in the expectation that his formidable opponent would endeavour to justify it, he played it.

QUEEN'S PAWN GAME.

White	Black	White	Black
Janowski	Tarrasch	Janowski	Tarrasch
1. P-Q4	P-Q4	6. P-K3	Kt-B3
2. Kt-KB3	P-QB4	7. P-KR3	B-K2
3. P-B3	P-K3	8. QKt-Q2	B-Q2
4. B-B4	Q-Kt3	9. B-K2	Castles K
5. Q-Kt3	Kt-KB3	10. Castles K	KR-B1

Neither can very well play Q×Q, because that would allow additional mobility to the opponent's queen's

rook. All that black wishes to do is to secure a majority of pawns on the queen's side and force a passed pawn, contending that his king is secure from attack. He therefore proceeds to mass all his forces on the queen's side of the board.

11. Kt-K5	B-K1	20. B-B3	P-Kt4
12. B-Kt3	Kt-Q2	21. P-K4	Kt-B3
13. Kt(Q2)-B3	Kt-B1	22. P x P	P x P
14. KR-Q1	Kt-R4	23. R-K1	P-Kt5
15. Q-B2	P-B5	24. Kt(Q2)-B1	P x P
16. Kt-Q2	P-B3	25. P x P	Q-R4
17. Kt(K5)-B3	B-Kt3	26. Kt-K3	B-B2
18. Q-B1	P-KR3	27. Q-Q2	B-R6
19. Kt-R2	Q-Q1	28. QR-Kt1	Kt-Q2

Although this may be described as a deep move, it is not difficult to comprehend it. White intends R-Kt7, when by Kt-Kt3 the rook cannot be extricated. Possibly Tarrasch's analysis stopped here, taking it for granted that as R-Kt7 could not now be played, Kt-Kt3 followed by Kt-R5 would win the queen's bishop's pawn. But whereas Tarrasch is all along actuated by the importance of small things his opponent is manoeuvring for an actual mating position by goading Tarrasch to proceed with his idea.

29. R-Kt7	Kt-Kt3	34. Q-Kt6 ch	K-R1
30. Kt-B5	Q-R3	35. Q x P ch	K-Kt1
31. Kt x P ch	P x Kt	36. Q-Kt6 ch	K-R1
32. R x B	K x R	37. R-K5	Resigns
33. Q x P	K-Kt1		

BRIDGE.

THE ORIGINAL LEAD AGAINST A NO TRUMP DECLARATION.

IT was necessary to devote the whole of our last article to an explanation of the Eleven Rule, because a proper understanding of the nature and application of this rule is essential to success in the No Trump game. Having, we trust, thoroughly explained it, we will now revert to our original subject—the opening lead against a No Trump declaration. A table of leads was given on page 804 of the issue of 17 June. These leads are generally adopted with very little variation, and there is a twofold reason why they should be adhered to. First, because they are the leads which have been proved, by long practice, to be the most profitable method of opening the game, and secondly, because a strict adherence to them will give the greatest amount of information to the leader's partner. Let us run through them in order.

Holding ace, king, queen and others, the usual lead is the queen, followed by the king, the object being to give the leader's partner the opportunity of unblocking, should he hold four of the suit.

Holding ace, king, and others, the fourth-best should be led, unless the leader holds seven altogether. In that case there is a good chance of dropping the other six in two rounds and winning seven tricks in the suit, therefore the king and ace should be led out, but with less than seven of the suit it is not possible for the leader to exhaust all the rest, and, if he leads out his king and ace he will probably not make another trick in the suit. When he holds less than seven he should give away the first trick by leading an under card, always his fourth-best, trusting that his partner will be able to get in in some other suit and return the original lead, in which case the ace and king are winners and probably all the small cards as well.

Holding ace, king, knave, and others, some players lead the king and then open another suit, if the queen is not in dummy, waiting for their partner to get in and return the lead, but every fresh suit opened by the defenders in a No Trump game is such a great disadvantage to them that this policy is not to be recommended. It is far better to give away the first trick and leave the dealer to open another suit for himself. Precisely the same argument applies to the lead from king, queen, 10 and others. If the leader opens with the king and neither the ace nor knave appears, he is no better off than he was before, he then has either to go on with a small one or to change his suit, and he is at a disadvantage in either case. He will do far better in the long run by leading his fourth-best and trusting to his partner for either the ace or knave. This is a lead about which

there is much difference of opinion. Some players always lead the king from king, queen, 10, and other players never do it. If the leader has a certain card of re-entry in another suit, the king is probably the better lead, but with no card of re-entry, the best chance of establishing the suit is the fourth-best lead. Holding king, queen and small ones, the fourth-best should always be led with less than seven. When the leader holds seven his partner is unlikely to hold more than two, and may only hold one or even none, so that there is considerable risk of never making a trick at all in the suit unless the king is led.

Holding ace, queen, knave, and others, the queen should always be led. This is far the most useful of any of the conventional leads, and it is one which very frequently occurs. When the leader has five or six of a suit his partner cannot be reckoned upon to hold more than two, and if the ace is led followed by the queen, the suit is indeed cleared after the second round, but it is rendered quite useless by the fact that the holder of it cannot get in again to lead it. Also, if the dealer has king and two others, which is a very likely combination, he can hold up the king until the third round, when the ace is out, but he dare not do so if the ace is still in, for fear of being led through and never making his king at all. The value of this lead is very great, and cannot be too much insisted upon.

Holding king, knave, 10 and others, the knave is the usual lead, but some players adopt the whist lead of the 10. It matters very little which of the two is led, and the lead of the 10 has the extra advantage of distinguishing between the lead from king, knave, 10, and the lead from ace, knave, 10. Either lead is equally correct, but it is generally better to abide by established custom, and custom ordains the lead of the knave.

Holding queen, knave, 10 and others, the queen is the lead, and as soon as the ace makes its appearance, the leader's partner can place the knave and 10 in the leader's hand. In all other cases the fourth-best should be led, unless the leader has three or more cards in sequence at the head of his suit, in which case he should lead the highest. All the foregoing leads are framed on the supposition that the leader has no certain card of re-entry in his hand. When he is fortunate enough to hold a long suit, and one or more cards of entry in the other suits, he can afford to play a much more forward game and to lead out winning cards at once. For instance, holding ace, king, 10, 7, 4, 2 of one suit and the ace of another, he could have three rounds of his long suit and clear it at once, keeping his other ace to come in with, but unfortunately such a hand as this is not common against a genuine No Trump declaration.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Grosvenor Club, W., 22 June, 1905.

SIR,—No impartial and educated person will, I believe, deny that the widespread, long-continued, and urgent demand for increased efficiency in the conduct of our imperial and national affairs has so far been carried on with a lack of efficiency, co-ordination, and expert knowledge that are as surprising as they are serious. On the one hand we find a vast army of amateur reformers crying aloud for any kind of change so that a better and more business-like régime may result, and on the other we see a not inconsiderable number of earnest and more or less professional politicians, each with his separate "plan" for the regeneration of some or of all the ills which are now afflicting us. But from these regular and volunteer regiments of reformers no effort has yet been made, in a business and non-partisan manner, to bring about a workable scheme, or to put the whole subject upon a sound and scientific basis. And knowing this and having personally given the matter very long and careful attention, I am asking you to publish the following, and to give me your personal support in the views I propound. But not for an instant would I suggest that I have

succeeded in solving the whole problem; I merely venture to believe I have touched the fringe of the right solution, and sincerely trust that other and more capable minds will shape it in its details and in its ultimate applicability.

In dealing with so stupendous and so vital a subject as is that of reforming our whole system of governmental control of our national and imperial interests, the first factor precedent to success is unquestionably dependent upon expert and efficient management. To leave incompetent managers in authority over any kind of business while efforts are being made to improve this or that particular detail is to court failure and bankruptcy. And yet if the subject under consideration be looked at below the surface this is exactly what we all are now doing.

In all departments of our national and our imperial life, whether we take that of the army, the navy, education, or any other, we find that practically every individual connected with it is in a greater or a lesser degree responsible for carrying out the existing system. But whether these officers be competent, honest, and reliable or not, the chief manager of that department is above all himself responsible, and ought to bear the blame if the system is faulty through his fault or if the officials he appoints are unfit. And as the Imperial Parliament is the real legislative and executive head of the State it is Parliament that must be held responsible for whatever shortcomings may exist in all and each of the departments under its control. But this responsibility is further limited when it is remembered that despite theoretical reasons to the contrary, the fact cannot be disputed that the Upper Chamber is a negligible quantity, that is so far as real and important issues are concerned. Thus it follows that as in actual practice the House of Commons has become the supreme authority over all affairs of national or imperial moment, and to a lesser degree over those of private enterprise, it is the House of Commons which must be held responsible for whatever lack of efficiency now exists in the management of the several departments of our national and imperial life that are under its control and subject to its authority. And from this arises my contention that if we are to become a thoroughly efficient people we must begin our reforms by reforming the head rather than the limbs of the body politic and of the body national and imperial, and make the House of Commons what it now most decidedly is not, an assembly composed entirely of experts and representatives of the best kind of our most important concerns and interests. In order to prove how extremely inefficient to control the gigantic affairs of our vast and varied empire the House of Commons in reality is, it is only necessary to note the nature of its composition. Of its inept handling of public business, of its systematic waste of public time, and of its consistent attention to its own concerns rather than to those of the State, its records bear eloquent witness. Far from being in any sense representatives of the people, and experts on matters of public importance, facts and figures show that the great majority of members of Parliament represent themselves only. More than one-fourth of their whole number are lawyers, and lawyers moreover of no particular distinction or experience in their profession. Of the remaining number we find the vast majority is made up of more or less successful merchants or other business men, of wealthy people of leisure with no special calling, and of retired soldiers and sailors, with a sprinkling of workers or loungers in other walks of life. Possibly twelve, or at the most generous computation twenty, out of the six hundred and seventy members who compose the Lower House can with truth be classed as experts in governing a great Empire and a great people, or as typical representatives of our most considerable and most vital interests and industries.

But with the limited space at my disposal perhaps I can best condense and illustrate my contention as to the wholly inadequate nature of our imperial and national managers by furnishing a concrete example of inefficiency which is obvious and unquestioned, and which moreover is fraught with great danger to our continued welfare. Of the hundred and one important questions daily discussed by politicians, journalists, and by the

general public there is, I believe, only one about which all classes and all parties are alike agreed. I refer to the absolute need of maintaining an up-to-date and highly powerful navy. And yet despite this pronounced unanimity concerning a matter of supreme interest to us all, there is not one single expert and representative naval authority in the House of Commons. Occasionally an expert on naval affairs does by chance find his way into the House, as in the case of Lord Charles Beresford, but when this occurs he is invariably shunted into some other sphere of usefulness which necessitates his resigning his seat.

In conclusion I would venture to suggest that two things ought to be done, and done soon. In the first place a thoroughly representative, expert, and absolutely impartial committee, embodying the best brains in our Empire, should be appointed to draw up a scheme for the thorough and complete reform of Parliament in such a manner as to make that body efficient in the highest degree as well as representative in an effective sense of our people and of our most important interests.

Secondly, within the new Imperial Parliament ought to be representatives of our overseas British brethren, in such proportion as shall be determined by the said committee.

I am perfectly aware that amongst the objections that will be raised to the foregoing will be the obvious one that any reform of Parliament upon the lines I suggest would be directly contrary to the Constitution, and consequently impossible or at least highly difficult to evolve. In answer to this I would only say that the Constitution exists for the benefit of the State and not the State for the benefit of the Constitution. And as a matter of historical fact the British Constitution has so often been violated and altered, and that too with so much real advantage to all concerned, that there exist no practical or insurmountable difficulties in the way of revising it once more.

I am, faithfully yours,
F. GRENFELL BAKER.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

16 Gloucester Terrace, Hyde Park.

SIR,—With your permission, I should like to add my little meed of approbation to Miss Keeton's letter. The Anglo-Russian Literary Society is emphatically not a private Society, either in view of its objects or its patronage. From an intimate and recent knowledge of its government, I have come to the conclusion—which has indeed been forced upon so many—that, in its present condition, it is not a fit or capable instrument for its excellent purpose; any adhesion to a new or reformed organisation would, I am sure, be followed by others, and an efficient society could soon be set on foot, if only other people will lend their aid.

I am yours obediently,
LEONARD A. MAGNUS.

"WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE."

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Los Angeles, Cal., U.S.A., 12 June, 1905.

SIR,—Mr. Labouchere's speech in the House on this subject prompts me to send you a few words. Only a few lines of telegraphic summary have reached us here, but I hope soon to read a full report. It was, no doubt, very witty and amusing.

Why do not men behave to the fair sex on this question with the chivalry that Mr. Labouchere credits them with and grant them full freedom? We shall be told because they do not wish to see female policemen and archbishops. But this is only begging the question. There is no proof whatever that if women had votes, these results would follow. I believe myself that if women were given the franchise freely, after the novelty had worn off they would not use it. In ten years' time the woman's suffrage movement would be dead and buried. But if refused it will live for centuries; until indeed it is granted.

I believe it is correct to say that in the one or two

States here which have given the women votes only about 1 per cent. avail themselves of the privilege; and this percentage is decreasing.

The principle is the same as that which underlies the drink problem. Deny to people the right to purchase drink and they will at once clamour for it; let them buy as much as they will openly and they will not care about it, except those living on a low plane who will have drink whatever obstacles are put in the way. Human nature always longs for that which is denied to it.

A. K. VENNING.

THE ORIGIN OF LIFE.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

27 June, 1905.

SIR,—At the moment, materialistic science seems to be in that state of dwindling prosperity which impels the enterprising but dejected showman to stage something capping the last "sensation". No sooner do the professors and students in our laboratories startle us with one marvel, than another adapted to dispel the imminent yawn incident to a surfeit of diversion appears on the programme. After frozen hydrogen, helium, radium, comes what staring press headlines term "The Origin of Life", with stimulating hints from scientific authorities that the "origin" may be involved in certain effects observed in broth under the influence of radium.

That intelligent people—a fortiori professors at centres of learning—can muster the supposition that, given absolute sterilisation of a medium and the production in it of certain multiplying objects called germs, the result would have any relevancy to solution of the problem of the origin of life, is proof, to the metaphysician—if he wanted proof—that, if the age of religious credulity is past, the age of scientific credulity is an ample substitute.

I suggest that it might be advantageous to include the subject of causation in the curricula of our centres of learning, and for professors of physics and biology to enter as students. Then, the metaphysician, in his hilarious moments, might not be provoked to connote university broth with university froth.

Yours truly,

H. CROFT HILLER.

A FRANCISCAN MENU.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Livorno, 20 June, 1905.

SIR,—I see that M. Paul Sabatier, the famous writer on S. Francis and things Franciscan, is in England to receive an honorary degree at Oxford. His friends, or perhaps the British Branch of the International Society of Franciscan Studies, may desire to offer him a banquet. As I much doubt the ability of any London chef to draw up a menu suitable to such an occasion, I venture to submit a specimen which, besides being thoroughly characteristic of primitive Franciscan fare, cannot fail at each course to arouse the liveliest discussion among the assembled guests:—

MENU FRANCISCAIN.

Consommé d'eau aux croûtes de pain à la large observance.

Têtes de poissons écoutants à la thaumaturge.

Pied de porc sanglant à la Junipère.

Navets d'Ombrie à la règle primitive.

Chaudfroid de petits bouts ramassés *ostiatim*.

Bœuf cendrex à la fils de Bernardone.

Choux renversés à la Portioncule.

Trouvailles de poulet avancé de la place d'Assise.

Salade à la roi Nabuchodonosor.

Pudding de fonds-de-sac à la frère quêteur.

Glaces de statues de neige à l'ermitage de Satriano.

Fruits de pénitence.

VINS.

(*Caves des Carceri.*)

Vin mixte de besace de Capucin.

Vin de Poggibonsi de tiers ordre.

Grand Mousseux du Rivo Torto.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

MONTGOMERY CARMICHAEL.

CRADLE SONG.

FROM groves of spice,
O'er fields of rice,
Athwart the lotus-stream,
I bring for you,
Aglint with dew,
A little lovely dream.

Sweet, shut your eyes,
The wild fire-flies
Dance through the fairy "neem";
From the poppy-bole
For you I stole
A little lovely dream.

Dear eyes, good night,
In golden light
The stars around you gleam;
On you I press
With soft caress
A little lovely dream.

SARAJINI NAIDU.

REVIEWS.

PILGRIMS OF DISCOVERY.

"Hakluytus Posthumus, or Purchas His Pilgrimes."
By Samuel Purchas. Vols. I.-IV. Glasgow:
MacLehose. 1905. 25s. net each.

AFTER Hakluyt Purchas. Messrs. MacLehose, to whom book-lovers, scholars and all who delight in the ceaseless farings to and fro of Englishmen on the seas for the sake of empire are indebted for a reprint of the "Principal Navigations" of the immortal Hakluyt, have now again laid the public under an obligation by the promise of "Purchas His Pilgrimes". It was but natural that the accomplishment of the one task should make the other an agreeable necessity, but none the less let grateful credit be given where it is due. It is no small undertaking, for when the republication of a work that since 1625 has never been reissued is completed it will contain no less than twenty volumes, eight more than Hakluyt claimed. So far the instalment consists of four volumes, but an examination of them suffices to show that in form, paper and type, in the reproduction of maps and charts and in the fidelity of the text the new edition will be worthy of the material and the author, and will add to the unqualified satisfaction that the Hakluyt has already won for the publishers. We congratulate Messrs. MacLehose on their public spirit, not unworthy of "the adventurous courage of the stationer Master Henry Fetherstone (like Hercules helping Atlas)" the first printer, and on the general excellence with which they have executed their undertaking. Hakluyt's collection has indeed been rightly called by a great historian and stylist the prose epic of the English nation, but the "Pilgrimes" of the industrious editor to whom Hakluyt was a master and pioneer are a fitting epilogue to that matchless chronicle, the child of the proud patriotism that was born of many patriots' deeds.

The facts of Purchas' uneventful life are adequately set forth in a brief note to volume I. The son of an Essex yeoman, he graduated a Master of Arts and a Bachelor of Divinity from Cambridge to become vicar of Eastwood in 1604, near Leigh-on-the-Thames, a seaport, Camden says, well stocked with lusty seamen. Ten years later he was promoted to be rector of S. Martin's, Ludgate, and he died in 1626. The year before his death saw the publication of the "Pilgrimes", but twelve years previously he had given to the world "Purchas His Pilgrimage", four editions of which had been printed before his death, and in 1619 "Purchas his Pilgrim" or "Microcosmus," both of them distinct books from the four volumes as originally printed of the "Pilgrimes" proper, though often confused with

them. Clearly therefore he had not been an idle divine, and, when it is recollected that these works together fill more than five thousand pages of close print, modern editors may well draw their breath in respectful homage to the labour those pages enshrine. And they were apparently mainly his own toil in the literal sense of the words. "His own hands had to worke," he writes, "as well as his head, except in some few transcriptions", for a Bachelor of Divinity with family cares and not too fat a benefice, even with the aid "of exhibition of charitable friends and extraordinary labours of Lecturing", was not able to hire "a vicarian or subordinate scribe." But it is not difficult to understand why Purchas was so ready to spend his working life on tales of the sea, or rare histories together with many burrowings into the past and quaint speculations on the meaning of it all. He had been born into that sixteenth-century world, in which Elizabethan endeavour had attained its triumphant climax, he had been cradled and nurtured unconsciously in the traditions and aspirations that are the background of warm colour and noble romance to the stern drama of the Elizabethan seamen, and he had later enjoyed the privilege of labouring with Hakluyt himself, from whom he inherited no small stock of papers. A mean and dull soul it would have been indeed in whom this training had not bred the determination to continue what the master had been prevented from achieving. And Purchas if not a Hakluyt was not a mean or a dull soul. True as he remarks himself, "Even I, which have written so much of travellers and travells, never travelled 200 miles from Thaxted in Essex, where I was born" but his Epistle Dedicatorie to the most High and excellent Prince Charles and his Preface to the Reader are dignified refutations of the plausible critics who would deny that the scholar in his study can be a worthy chronicler of those who go down to the sea in ships. For in Purchas there burned steadily if not brilliantly the true spirit. His love of divinity, his propensity for metaphysical speculations or historical inquiries as to Man's Generation and Regeneration, or the Religions observed in all Ages and Places discovered from the Creation unto this Present, remind us that he may have been a child of the English theological spirit in all its manifestations from Hooker to Laud which is as characteristic of his time as were the achievements of Hawkins, Frobisher, Drake and Lancaster. But the root of the matter is in him—unquenchable curiosity, unalloyed delight in what is rare, strange, new or marvellous. "I also" he says with the frank pride of his day, "I also have been an Athenian with these Athenians one delighting to tell, the others to heare some new thing", only too willing to "pass dryfoot things newe and common". "My genius" he adds correctly enough "delights rather in by-ways than high-ways".

Harsh critics we are reminded dwell on his inferiority to Hakluyt, in originality, in power of the pen, in spirit, in fidelity and accuracy as an editor. But it is not given to every man simply because he can find a proper pleasure in Tractates of Travellers to write a prose epic even if fortune pile up on his desk the finest material that a century of romance and discovery has slowly pieced together. Let it be granted that Purchas was not a genius as Hakluyt unquestionably was, but let us also remember he could toil unceasingly and that the cadences and felicities of Elizabethan speech are not wholly quenched in the fruits of his labouring pen. True, he is a bit of a pedant, but we like him the better for that. He must needs make of his first volume a collection of Voyages and Peregrinations of Antient Kings, Patriarkes, Apostles, Philosophers and others, ornately encrusted with inquiries of Languages and Religions, theorems, conclusions and diagrams, upholstered in their due panoply of dust-begrimed erudition and as antique as the theology and medicine of his contemporaries whose serried folios line in dumb defiance the upper shelves of great libraries, and at best win from the student of literature a listless recognition of the lamp-lit hours they once consumed. But even volume I. has its historical value; it testifies to the sense of completeness in the editor, and the judicious eye will find oftener

than it expects pages that are always quaint, and still fresh, vigorous, and edifying. And this very prologue amazingly heightens the contrast between what is now, thank God, accomplished, and what is to come. For volume II. is a very different affair. Open the table of contents; Columbus, Magelanes, Drake, Spilbergen, Davis, Lancaster, the pick of that gallant company, some of whose finest secrets are known only to the deep that claimed this one and that for its own. It is no faint whiff of the salt of the sea that greets us here, but the very breath of the brine, and as we turn the pages the wind that pipes to the wet sheet and the thrust of the tiller under the thresh of the tide blows through the rustling paper, and sets our pulses beating.

"The Lord knows what we may find, dear lass,
And the Deuce knows what we may do—
We're down, hull down, on the Long Trail—the
trail that is always new."

Yes, indeed we are, but that Long Trail does not always lead to pleasant discoveries. Chapter IV. for example with its "Discourse of Java . . . written by Master Edmund Scot" uncovers some of the more miry ways that stain the strange and splendid story of English endeavour in the East. Yet what a curious compound of vanity, national pride, simplicity and cruelty this same Master Scot so frankly reveals himself to be. And his very candour cools the heat of resentment that stirs in the mind of the modern. None the less we recall the justice of Purchas' remarks in his prefatory "Note touching the Dutch". "I question not", he writes, "but that the English have also such, and such wee have occasionally noted, Fugitives, Apostataes, Thieves, Murtherers &c. which yet are not Nationall faults, but personall, except the Nation doth justifie such injustice". Good Master Purchas knowing the best and the worst in his five thousand folio pages may well be thanked for that last sentence. To-day we can add nothing to it and it must be always remembered by the reader when this page or that causes him to hurry on, wishing that what he read had not come into history from the hand of his own countryman. But it is time to make an end of Prefacing. The book itself and what it contains are the thing. How different are the Travels of Purchas' Pilgrims from the travels of to-day in their charm, their style, their matter, and their effect on us. It is only a Nansen or a Sven Hedin or perhaps the pioneers of British power into the mysteries of Tibet who can stir the thrill that these ancient voyages awake with such artless and sure magic. The age that read them was in one sense like the age that first learned what the dark continent of Africa was declared to be by the pens of a Livingstone, a Barth, a Baker and a Stanley, an age to which save for the half-forgotten journals of Mungo Park was revealed the mystery of a new continent, and which could slake its thirst for the strange and the unknown with the pleasure that the recital of heroic toil and endurance must always create. But in reality it is all quite different. For, by Livingstone's day two centuries of patient exploration had systematically bred in both the discoverer and his public a certain wise passiveness. Africa is new, this is a splendid story of undaunted courage and invincible determination to succeed, and the sum added to our knowledge is remarkable as well as thrilling, but after all it is only what we have a right to expect. But the sixteenth-century explorer who returned to tell his tale to sixteenth-century hearers spoke as the tellers of fairy stories can to children who have not yet lost their belief in fairies, children who have not yet learned that all fairy stories are really alike. It is not the story that enthralled them, but the joy of passing into a world where life is not remorselessly governed by the hourly tyranny of convention and routine, by the prosaic laws of matter of fact nurses and parents and the known limits of a familiar schoolroom, but a world where anything may happen at a moment's notice, and no one can say why or that it is wrong. Hakluyt and Purchas and the men and women who read their books had not yet learned, as have we alas, that all travellers' tales are also really the same. Better still, the travellers themselves had not learned

it either, and the freshness which for us so unconsciously bubbles over even the most ordinary happenings, is so because it was not a freshness to them but only a statement of facts. Throw in the national motive, the political rivalry and ambition spurring on Spaniard and Portuguese, Dutch and English to fight for trade and industry, to explore in order that this country or that may surpass its foes in power and wealth and you can see Drake or Davis or Lancaster and even Master Scot as they really were, children and heroes in one. The marvels of unknown worlds were marvels to be sure, and therefore called to all daring and inquisitive spirits; but they were also marvels worth the winning and national honour as well as individual fame beckoned with fingers of the enchanter's promise across the uncharted seas. It is because Purchas helps Hakluyt in making us understand all this that he is worth reprinting and re-reading. But his volumes should not be read straight through, save by the scholar for science' sake. Dip into them rather and then follow where the inclination leads. You will only thus fully appreciate the truth of the editor's plea. "Here also both elephants may swimme in deeper voluminous seas, and such as want either rest or leisure may single out, as in a Library of Bookes, what author or voyages shall best fit to his profit or pleasure."

EMPIRICISM AND EMPIRE.

"The Friends of England." By the Hon. George Peel.
London: Murray. 1905. 12s. 6d. net.

MR. PEEL has written this book to prove that our policy throughout our history as a colonising Power is based on one coherent and consistent plan. England's "maintenance of the balance of power in Europe and her construction of an empire in the outer continents have been two aspects of the same design". But it is difficult to understand why Mr. Peel should think that there is any novelty in this theory. He indeed does point out that among continental nations a similar view has been entertained but in a highly exaggerated form, which attributes to our statesmen Machiavellian designs and deeply laid plans for which there is no warrant in history. But on the other hand has it ever been seriously disputed that the seizing and appropriating of our enemy's territory beyond the seas was a part of "the same design" as our attacks upon them in European waters or our subsidising of other Powers to fight them in Europe, and that we have consistently done it? Chatham stated this was his intention, but it required no statement for it was self-evident. Mr. Peel hardly maintains his own theory for at times he proves that there is little or no design to be discerned inasmuch as we have seized portions of territory again and again at the last moment to prevent some other Power obtaining them. On what ground, indeed, can it be seriously maintained that our not very creditable wrangles with Germany over African acquisitions showed any evidence of design? or in what way were they connected with the balance of power? Mr. Peel produces the Virginia Charter as evidence of a design to set up an opposition empire to the Spaniards, but says nothing of our other North American colonies all of which had different grounds of origin. He also ignores the action of chartered companies whose object was trade not empire, though he sometimes seems to admit this in the case of India. The argument for settled design consistently pursued will not stand examination, and the writer gives it no logical support after much preliminary alarum.

In fact the foundation on which this argument is constructed is flimsy. The tale told is fragmentary and unconvincing, and has been better told before. To this fact we attribute the tiresome abundance of exuberant rhetoric throughout, and two whole chapters at the end which have no necessary connexion with the main argument. In these the author imagines himself disputing on a mountain-top in the Far East with one Ah Hok as to the respective merits of Chinese and European civilisation. We are not surprised that Mr. Peel's metaphors have reached by his last page

such a stage of exhaustion that he has to press into the service our old friends the Sibylline books, for really his lavish use of metaphor has run to inexcusable waste. The following may serve as an example. "It would be superfluous here to enter into the history of the West Indies, that island world stretched like a twisted cord between the point of Florida in North America and the delta of the River Orinoco to the south. A cord it is of which the complex strands have been the property of as many nations. Or it reminds the traveller of the soil of Delphi or of Olympia where each slab underfoot is rich in old inscriptions of forgotten athletes and once famous victories. Each island is a palimpsest, scored and scored again with the writing of many contending authorities, &c. &c." This kind of thing is irritating to the reader and confuses the meaning. It would be hardly excusable in an epic poem, in an historical treatise it is grievously misplaced. Nor can we commend Mr. Peel's taste in calling the Pope "the tenant of the graveyard of the Cæsars".

But let us return to the matter of the book apart from the style. Mr. Peel finds fault with the late Sir John Seeley and Mr. Chamberlain for their views as to the manner in which the empire grew up. The latter stated on one occasion that "we have never had a colonial policy, but somehow or other we have been allowed to blunder into the best parts of the world", and Sir John Seeley's famous paradox is quoted that we "conquered and peopled half the world in a fit of absence of mind". Mr. Peel assumes that both the historian and the statesman are wrong as to the origin of our empire, and he seems to have written his book to correct these principally supposed errors. A careful reading of the "Expansion of England" shows that, though Seeley may have indulged his taste for paradox in one or two famous phrases, his book as a whole is an acute, accurate and illuminating treatise on the growth of the empire. Mr. Chamberlain would make no claim to be counted as an historian but an impartial study of the Egyptian imbroglio, as it is set out in the treatise of M. de Freycinet recently published, leads to the conviction that "blundered into" is the only correct definition of our manner of acquiring dominion—at all events in that region.

Mr. Peel's own view is that we have been forced by outside pressure into winning the empire, and that it is only kept together by the same pressure, and he also seems to hold that we have done good only because we have been obliged, "our need has been the preceptor of our duty" because "if the inhabitants were to be well disposed to us we must do what was necessary to that end". There may be some truth in this but the general equity of our system may perhaps be accounted for on less cynical grounds. As to the general theory of the writer, an examination of his book shows that he has nothing new to teach us. We can trace no essential difference between Sir John Seeley's explanation of the conquest of India and Mr. Peel's, apart from the method in which their views are set forth, which in the one case is convincing and in the other not.

As to the future Mr. Peel is quite acute enough to foresee the grave menace to our empire presented by the growth of an aggressive foreign policy on the part of the United States, but he hesitates to pursue his speculations to their logical conclusion. He rashly assumes that "if its future career is to be one of conquest, those conquests will scarcely be of a very extensive character". Surely everything points to an exactly contrary conclusion. If the United States do start on such a career it will probably begin in South America, where conquests must be prodigiously extensive. But the author hopes without giving any reason for his assumptions that the United States will be satisfied with a future which will confine them to helping us to preserve the balance of power in the world, and therewith our own imperial system, without subjecting it to too intolerable a strain. In fact if the empire is to stand, according to Mr. Peel it can hardly do so as an empire at all. It will only be as the loosest of confederations in comparison with which the old Swiss Staaten Bund was a close federation. So far as he puts forward any coherent view of the future, the principle on which he holds the empire is to rest is

that if Canada, for instance, thinks she has no concern in a war she is under no obligation to help Britain, "on the free principles of the empire it is open to Canada to help or to abstain". If those are the foundations on which our empire-builders are working, the whole imperialist movement is wasted labour. The effort of erecting and preserving so flimsy a structure is not worth making. Mr. Peel has travelled and read much, but he has hardly assimilated his knowledge profitably. He believes he has evolved a theory to account for the past, but what there is new in it is not accurate, or is so in a very limited degree, and he cannot help us to frame a rational policy for the future.

SHORTHOUSE.

"John Henry Shorthouse." Vol. I. Life and Letters. Vol. II. Literary Remains. London: Macmillan. 1905. 17s. net.

THOSE who regard authorship as a profession and label themselves author as other people are styled barrister or merchant should study the career of John Henry Shorthouse. He was a vitriol-merchant in Birmingham. He wrote "John Inglesant" at his leisure over a period of ten years; when it was finished he had a hundred copies printed and said that his ambition was quite satisfied if this number of clever people read it. The perfect book, he wrote later in his life, should have no author. No doubt he enjoyed his sudden fame and was ingenuously pleased at the notice of known people: at the breakfast with Gladstone, the visit to Lambeth, the dinner with the Tennysons at Farringford—where Tennyson read "Maud" and the "Ode to the Duke" in the moonlight—but it all made no difference to his way of serene meditation or his independent judgment. The Society of Authors would hardly have deemed him qualified for membership. Much of his best actual work was spent in a private Quakerish essay society in Birmingham. One of his favourite amusements was a quiet drive "to lunch at country vicarages" or "a few friends" to a tea-party. The greatest crisis in his life was his baptism into the Church of England: life was a different thing to him after that, he said. His capacity was in some way like his manner of life. He had none of that mountebank cleverness which is the stock in trade of your popular novelist. His imagination was not a sort of inventive faculty which he set at the game of making plots and drawing characters because it had the itch to be busy. It was rather an historic and philosophic and religious sense so earnest that it could carry him absolutely into the past, but only into those parts of the past and those movements of thought which touched his nature. If only all authors could be the same, have a thing to express and express it; not persons whose glib faculty is persuaded into the belief that so long as the faculty is exercised it does not much matter how or on what.

Birmingham would have preferred a professional author. It certainly did not value Shorthouse or notice his book. He was a mystic, even mentioned the word in the office, and mysticism was suspected. He was of Quaker stock, but came to love the beauty and significance—probably spoken of in his native place as glamour and idolatry—of Anglican ritual. His thesis of life was to prove that the spiritual faculty may be and should be as much a continuous possession as a sense of hearing. "Sir Percival" was written to illustrate this. His ardent mysticism was partly physical. His stammer threw him on his own resources and prevented him spending his leisure on much parochial work that he would have liked. His few strokes of epilepsy which, after he had written "Inglesant", drove him from business were correspondent with a recurrent mental state in which the things of sense and of the spirit lost their divergent outlines—merged into the unity beyond them. His æsthetic sense was strangely squared with this mystic affinity. He delighted in the sort of life which made cultivated leisure possible, and finding it in his experience only among people of wealth

and position grew to exaggerate the suave pleasure of fine households. People who did not think and read scarcely came within his purview of life and the storm of social questions raised no ripple on the surface of his philosophy: nor did political or national noises disturb his tranquil meditations more than war and sieges penetrated the absorption of Archimedes and Hegel. Above all he hated vulgarity. May not religion too be an art? he once asked. How he disliked ugliness appears admirably in a paragraph from "John Inglesant" after the death of the King. "A revolting coarseness marks every detail of the tragic story. . . . Ranting sermons, three in succession before a brewer in Whitehall are the medium to which the religious utterance of England is reduced, and Ireton and Harrison, in bed together with Cromwell and others in the room, signed the covenant for the fatal act". The fastidious culture of Shorthouse is in every line of that paragraph. It would be easy to turn the life to ridicule: the quiet tea parties, the essay society, the want of humour, the tame courtesy. He was indeed known to his schoolfellows as "the marquis". His literary sense was open to the same attack. He had read the "Excursion" through some fifteen times and wanted to produce an edition of it, with the lyrics insinuated in illustrative selection through it. He wrote to Matthew Arnold begging him to lend himself to some immense and comprehensive work of which "Literature and Dogma" was to be but the first hint. He wished—in his playful vein—that Mr. Gosse might be imprisoned, like Bunyan, that he too might reach immensity! On the top of this he compared Mr. Gosse's pet poem with Longfellow! In his essay on "Humour in Literature"—a very able but too earnest article—he showed himself seriously distressed lest humour should be absent from the Gospels and so confound his theory. But he found all he wanted in the parable of the Prodigal Son which in the deepest reverence he contrasted with "Tom Jones." His consummate appreciation of Cervantes and Jean Paul Richter shows how his mysticism informed his judgment. Platonism was of the breath of his nostrils, and possibly "John Inglesant" would never have been published but for the happy accident that Mr. Macmillan delighted in the same atmosphere. A man who made such notions his common topics was a tempting target for ridicule. Matthew Arnold in his quiet superior way, when approached with the magnum opus plea, said he found ephemeral literature so much more lucrative; and many of his acquaintance must have desired so to fend off his too great earnestness.

On the whole the first of these volumes gives a fair sketch of the man, though the growth and origin of the books, which should be the most interesting things in the life, are scamped; and some passages would make a man, always a stickler for precision and a writer of a beautifully pure English, shiver for his family pride. The letters themselves are too earnest to be good letters, their matter—essay writing in the wrong place—does not fall into this mould. The "shrieks" of some "evangelical lady" and the claim of "culture" of a Birmingham clique were the only incidents to stir his style to humour or indignation. It is unfortunate that one is asked to associate a judgment of the life with the scraps of essays that fill the second volume. The final judgment of him must depend on the insight into and interpretation of religious thought in the seventeenth century in the first half of "John Inglesant". But these essays are now put between covers for judgment. It can only be said that if their author is to be judged either by them or the letters he would appear no more than an amiable and well-read man with the gaps and capacity for taking himself too seriously which come of self-education. The few pages of recollections contributed to the first volume by Mr. Smith and Miss Martineau alone display the man. It is a small point but perhaps worth mention that we heard almost from Mr. Shorthouse's mouth a rather different account of his difficulty in persuading his characters to do what he wanted. Miss Martineau speaks of an occasion when they got into a castle and could not be got out. Was she thinking of his long struggle, for which we can vouch, to induce Inglesant to go from England to Italy?

PETER'S LEGACY.

"The First Romanovs (1613-1725). A History of Muscovite Civilisation and the Rise of Modern Russia under Peter the Great and his Forerunners."
By B. Nisbet Bain. London: Constable. 1905.
12s. 6d. net.

A STUDY of the early Romanov reigns explaining many issues which puzzle and bewilder the foreign observer of the political and economic conditions of contemporary Russia. For underlying the particular impulses given to the country's line of progress during the early part of the seventeenth century are numerous causes of the present backward state of the Russian people, the venality and inefficiency of the State service, and the dominating influence of the Church in cementing together what even twentieth-century Russians still continue to call "Holy" Russia. The unprecedented development that shook the country under Ivan the Terrible (1547-1584) seemed almost too sharp and too sudden. As might have been expected, it was followed by reaction and lassitude; and only thirty years after this drastic reformer's reign, Russia had drifted into a seemingly helpless, chaotic condition. With the death of Ivan's successor, his sickly and only remaining son Feodor, (1597) the direct line of Rurik had come to an abrupt end, and the horrors of a prolonged interregnum were added to other disasters. Within the brief period of thirteen years no fewer than four usurpers fought for the throne. The Poles and Swedes without—insurrection and pretenders within—all threatened a dissolution of the entire Tsardom and a foreign yoke for the people. To escape disintegration and the reign of confusion which was rapidly engulfing the country, Moscow decided to come to terms with the Poles, to accept the aid of the Polish King Sigismund and to receive as Tsar his son Vladislav; provided however that the latter would accept the tenets of the Greek Church. The promise of his son's conversion was evidently the most powerful ruse which Sigismund could employ to mark his own intention of simply incorporating Muscovy with Poland, under the Polish sceptre. The discovery of this moral death-trap set for the effacement of their Church and nationality caused the people to rise with one supreme effort. The Polish army, which had entered the heart of the country ostensibly to restore order, was overpowered and driven from Moscow, and the nearest lineal descendant of Ivan, the young Mihail Feodorovitch, the first of the Romanovs, was placed on the throne. The memory of Mihail's grandmother, the saintly Anastasia Romanova, Ivan's first consort, was still alive in the people's affection, while his father Archbishop Philaret, for three years treacherously detained as hostage by Sigismund, was justly regarded as a martyr to patriotism and orthodoxy. Had Philaret not been an ecclesiastic, there can be little doubt but that he himself would have been the elected Tsar. With the Romanovs may be said to have begun Russia's first steady gaze into Europe, her starting-point in the attempt at evolution into a Western Power. Henceforth Byzantine traditions and Byzantine patriarchal government are gradually to disappear. Yet it may be observed that the evolution and transformation is destined only to affect the upper surface of Russian thought and feeling. The level of the people remains untouched and undisturbed. The ancient picturesque and characteristic Greco-Slavonian garb of the Veliky Kniaz Moscovsky is exchanged for the curious nondescript gala attire worn by Petrus Magnus Russorum Imperator. An eloquent object lesson in the innovations brought about under these outward symbols is afforded by the illustrations of Mr. Nisbet Bain's volume. The eminently peaceful jewelled attire of the earlier Romanovs with quaint mixture of priestly and princely splendours has no counterpart in the martial dress of the dictator shown in the portrait of Peter, who with regalia of crown and sceptre, breastplate of armour and mailed fist, at once dissipates any idea of peaceful sanctity and paternal unity with an unwelcome people.

"What manner of Tsar is this" asked a contemporary

chronicler speaking of Peter, "who takes us all for soldiers and gives us no rest, and makes our wives and children widows and orphans? If he lives much longer, he will ruin the whole land. Why has he not been killed long ago? If things go well, he is well enough; but if they don't he tears and rages, and now he has turned against God also, and taken the very bells away from the churches". With Peter's advent, Moscow "the little mother of the people", the nursery of their faith and religion, was to be supplanted by a foreign stepmother with a foreign name, on the banks of the Neva. Already in the reign of Peter's father Alexsey (1645-1667), the native traders overburdened as they were with taxes, and hampered by all manner of disabilities, found it well nigh impossible to compete with the privileged foreign merchants. A petition to the Tsar against the foreigners concludes: "Merciful Gossudar, look on thy slaves and orphans, and let us not be brought to eternal wretchedness by them of another faith." Taking into consideration Peter's epoch of sweeping reform, and carefully analysing the tendencies of Russia's evolution before and after his reign, one is seriously inclined to ask whether after all he did actually confer on his country benefits of such magnitude as to justify historians in calling him its regenerator. "Founder of a mighty empire" he may have been, of an empire built on a policy of aggression and military discipline; but not a regenerator in the sense of the people's benefactor. No country can be said to be regenerated without a policy of economic benefit to the masses. The very origin of Russia's present internal troubles may possibly be traced to Peter's signal failure to grasp the fact that the peasant is the backbone of the nation. He began by pruning the branches and grafting on foreign shoots, whilst neglecting the roots of the tree. In his scheme of reforms, the upper stratum of society alone occupied his chief interest and attention. Educational institutions were hastily introduced by him, upon foreign models. Academies of arts, science and mechanics were inaugurated, into which Western ideas and Western instructors were freely imported. Russia was then as now, and as she is likely to remain indefinitely, an essentially agricultural country. Her future prosperity lies in the proper husbanding of the land and the development of its vast natural resources. Western ideas of advancement too rashly imported have missed their mark, and have led more and more to the neglect and impoverishment of the peasant. The fact that the peasant has remained for centuries stolidly un-receptive of any foreign elements may yet prove the basis of his future salvation; and that at the present moment there is some evidence of a movement from above for the adoption of measures for a practical improvement of his moral and physical condition may be the sign of a real regeneration, the like of which Russia has not yet experienced. Upon the reader's acceptance or rejection of Peter's rôle as a mighty regenerator will necessarily depend the value and interest of Mr. Nisbet Bain's work. At the same time we fail to find that he brings any really new light to bear upon the subject.

A SUDAN SCRAP-BOOK.

"Our Sudan: its Pyramids and Progress." By John Ward. London: Murray. 1905. 21s. net.

THIS curious picture-book is quite bewildering. It certainly is a picture-book, seeing that it contains some 700 illustrations, mostly reproductions from "snap-shots", plastered profusely over 356 pages of letterpress. As a compilation for lazy people who want "to know something about the Sudan" with the least effort it may possibly present some attractions but it is pieced together in so haphazard a manner and with such contempt for all sense of proportion that it can hardly be viewed as a serious guide to anybody. Amid the wild disarrangement of the book there are some chapters which give interesting, if not exactly novel, accounts of events and sundry episodes in the story of the African continent during the last fifty centuries, combined with details of

explorations and military expeditions to remote spots during the last fifty years. The bulk of the illustrations illustrate mainly the painful limitations of photography, more especially of the usual "Kodak" type, in delineating scenery. When in addition pictures taken by such means are reproduced, as evidently has been done here, in batches, without regard to the quality of each individual negative, the acme of inartistic composition and execution is reached. Thus the twelve illustrations devoted to the "Sudd" on pp. 189-192 can add nothing to our knowledge of that unpleasant region and one, or at most two, of these blurred prints would surely have sufficed to convey a general idea of the fact that this portion of the Nile is blocked by rank vegetation.

Mr. Ward has strange ideas of the relative value of his authorities. At one moment we are given Lord Cromer's admirable and historic despatch on Sir William Garstin's irrigation and railway projects, whilst a few pages on one lights on a sketchy account of the attempt to save Gordon in 1884-85, the story of which we are informed is "admirably told" by Count Gleichen. Mr. Ward says with absolute justice "this book 'With the Camel Corps up the Nile', written by a young Guardsman in his twenty-second year, is indeed a remarkable piece of work". Count Gleichen is doubtless an excellent officer who has been afforded many opportunities of seeing service under the most favourable conditions, and has not missed his opportunities. It is however rather cruel thus to parade his early efforts.

Passing over the "young Guardsman's" military criticisms and descriptions of events in the Nile campaign, of which owing to his youth and subordinate position he could know nothing, we will give an example of his methods as an Egyptologist and as a naturalist. We read "Colonel Colborne . . . being of an antiquarian turn of mind, somehow discovered there were some remains of a temple four or five miles up stream, and resolved to dig it out. Accordingly half a dozen of us accompanied him thither, on his dahabeah and in whalers, drank his brandy and sodas—such a luxury—and pretended to be deeply interested in his proceedings". It is a pity these Philistine youths were not imbued with some of the spirit, if not the knowledge, of the French savants who accompanied Bonaparte's expedition to Egypt and the Upper Nile at the end of the eighteenth century. So much for Count Gleichen on antiquarian research! Now for his zoology. "Near the place were dozens of little green copper deities strewn about, it must have been a god foundry in its day. . . . I also picked up a transparent green lizard with big eyes (alive), and what rather astonished me was that he threw off his tail, leaving it curling and wriggling in my hand. I tried to join him and his tail again, but some sand had got in and it wouldn't stick, so I left him forlornly looking at it." Mr. Ward gravely adds "the mystery of Count Gleichen's lizard I cannot explain". Apparently both to him and his Egyptian authority this habit of the Lacertinae of shedding their tails is a great discovery and unintelligible.

Where Mr. Ward does not lavishly present us with snapshot photographs taken by soldiers, sailors or globe-trotters on the Nile, he gives reproductions of the old sketches by the travellers Caillaud, Hoskins and Lepsius, chiefly of the antiquities in the reaches of the Nile between the Second and Third Cataracts, one, by the way, of the many portions he has not personally visited, and of which he says "The land has been closed to travellers for several generations". One would at first imagine that this was a slip, and that Mr. Ward had forgotten that until the abandonment of the Sudan by Mr. Gladstone in 1885 this region was accessible to all. As if however to emphasise and precisely to localise his point, Mr. Ward gives three illustrations of the famous Temple of Amenhotep III. at Solib, all from Hoskins' drawings done in 1835, seventy years ago. He apparently has forgotten that in 1884-85 hundreds of British officers passed and re-passed this beautiful temple, described by Hoskins as "the handsomest in the Sudan", and that among them at least a few were superior to Count Gleichen's mere "pretending to be deeply interested" in Egyptology. Some of these made water-colour

sketches of this temple—one of which was reproduced in a book on the Gordon Expedition called "Sketches in the Sudan"; a comparison of this sketch with Hoskins' made fifty years earlier proves good testimony to the care and accuracy of both artists.

Mr. Ward makes many needless mistakes; thus on page 71 he alludes to the tough job of pulling the gunboats over the rocks of the Fourth Cataract during the Gordon Relief Expedition. No gunboats were pulled up on that occasion. Again his reproduction of Caton Woodville's picture of "Too Late" is misdescribed as the battle of 19 January. It represents the attack on the convoy of wounded near Metemneh on 13 February. Also, no Sudanese or Egyptian soldier fought at Abu Klea on 17 January, 1885—Stewart's Desert Column was composed entirely of British troops although there were some 350 Egyptian and Aden camel-drivers. Hence his statement that "here the Sudanese soldiers first stood fire (when Sir Evelyn Wood was Sirdar in 1884)" is absolutely at variance with the facts. It is true that Wood expressed his desire to employ them in the front in this expedition but Lord Wolseley knew better and absolutely declined.

Some of Mr. Ward's gratuitous information on military matters is also incorrect. Thus he tells us "the 21st Lancers were formed nearly a century ago but strange to say had never been in action"! The 21st Lancers were formed in May 1861 upon the final breaking up of the H.E.I.C.S. Regiments and since then opportunities for active service have only fallen to thirteen out of our twenty eight cavalry regiments of the line. So there is nothing very "strange" in their record.

When in doubt what to say next Mr. Ward gives us a fragment, sometimes large sometimes small, of Kipling's rhymes on Kitchener and Khartum.

THE BUTTERFLIES OF INDIA.

"The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma. Butterflies." Vol. I. By Lieut.-Colonel C. T. Bingham. London: Taylor and Francis. 1905. 20s.

THE glory of animal life in the tropics is the abundance and conspicuous beauty of the butterflies. In forest, field or garden they may be found in astonishing number and variety, and in many cases clad in hues the brilliance of which makes even our red admirals and peacocks look shabby. Our Indian empire has its fair share of these exquisite creatures, and on the mountains temperate forms are represented at climatically suitable elevations, so that it can show a variety of types which can hardly be equalled elsewhere. It is, therefore, a matter of congratulation for naturalists in the East that the admirable "Fauna of British India" series of volumes is now extended to the butterflies, which are expected to fill at least three. It is true that there had already been commenced a work dealing with the subject by the late Mr. Lionel de Nicéville, undoubtedly the greatest authority thereon, and, as we are glad to testify, one of the most single-hearted of naturalists and kindly of men. His untimely death, no less a loss to his friends than to science, has left his work to be taken up by his friend Lieut.-Colonel Bingham, the best all-round naturalist in India; and all who know this gentleman must sympathise with Mr. de Nicéville's wish that his should be the hand to undertake the history of Indian butterflies in case of his own default. Almost all the forms described in this volume belong to the Nymphalid family of butterflies, of which our tortoiseshells and fritillaries are familiar examples. Numbers of their near relatives inhabit the Himalayas, where above a certain elevation many forms of animal life reminiscent of the temperate zones appear, in correspondence with a temperate climate. The great interest of Indian butterflies, however, lies in the many types unknown in Europe, more particularly as many of these illustrate biological phenomena of wide philosophic interest. Everyone interested in philosophic natural history has read of the Danaid butterflies, supposed to be protected against the attacks of birds by an objectionable flavour, and to be "mimicked" by other species devoid of such

attributes. Experiment has to a certain extent confirmed their reputation, though it has also shown that some theorists have immensely over-rated the immunity from attack the Danaids were imagined to enjoy.

It is very seldom that birds, which are supposed to be the chief enemies of butterflies, are actually seen to attack them in nature; though such attacks are most probably more the work of short-winged bush-creeeping species which seize their prey in repose than of the more striking birds which hawk in the open, so that the importance of birds as a selective agency tends to be underrated by observers. Hence it is important that experiments should be made to determine whether the leaf-like underside of such butterflies as *Kallima*, dealt with, like the Danaids, in the present volume, is really protective. *Kallima* is a familiar object in museum cases illustrative of protective colouration, where it is made to sit with the "tail" of its hind-wings against a stalk, and certainly does look very like a dead leaf. But in Nature it appears that the insect really sits with its head downwards, in a far less protective position, and it cannot always choose dead leaves to settle on, for the only specimen we ever saw in the act of settling chose a polished table in a bungalow. In any case, it is most unscientific to talk about protection till it is proved experimentally that birds and lizards pass the animate leaf unnoticed. A priori reasoning, though beloved of biologists, is apt to lead to the most erroneous conclusions; in the case of sexual selection for instance, the adaptation of the beautiful colours of the male butterflies seems most obvious, yet the late Mr. de Nicéville told us that he did not believe in it, having so very frequently found a perfect newly-emerged female butterfly paired up to a battered shabby old male, and his opinion, as that of a field observer of long experience, is entitled to every respect.

The worst of it is that even the practical naturalist is apt to get tainted—often unconsciously—by the unscientific methods of some of the theorists; hence the unvitiated observation of pre-Darwinian days is becoming rarer and rarer, though some compensation for this is found in the greater number of observers who now come forward, some of whom are bound to think and observe for themselves.

India, with its wonderfully rich fauna, is a very nursery of them, hence the scientific value of works like the present, which give the independent observer an opportunity of identifying his material and thus presenting his results in a generally available form. In no department of human knowledge is the truth of the proverb "in the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom" more evident than in biology; and in no department of biology has there been more faulty appreciation of evidence than in these discussions as to the meaning of animal colouration, in which the tropical butterflies have been so much appealed to as witnesses to the power of selection.

NOVELS.

"The Wild Marquis." By Ernest A. Vizetelly. London: Chatto and Windus. 1905. 6s.

With all the materials at his disposal for a thrilling romance Mr. Vizetelly has only produced a painstaking historical study. The title, the preface, the opening chapter would naturally lead one to expect an exciting story. But the author has the mind of the student rather than that of the story-teller. He aims at accuracy rather than picturesqueness. He has not the will or the power to present dramatically the events with which he deals. In this "excursion along the byways of historical biography" Mr. Vizetelly gives us the fruits of much literary and historical research. The book teems with references and so many and so various are the characters presented that the reader cannot help a certain feeling of confusion and bewilderment. But while we recognise fully the care and accuracy which Mr. Vizetelly has brought to his work we cannot think that he has done full justice to his subject. The amazing career of the Wild Marquis Armand Guerry de Maubreuil, Marquis d'Orvault is one which requires

above all the pen of the novelist. To present a picture of this extraordinary adventurer we need not cold facts but facts illumined by the imagination. The bare facts of Maubreuil's life are more startling—more improbable it might be said—than the imaginings of the most sensational novelist. His career from first to last was crowded with stirring and melodramatic incident. Ruined by Napoleon, Maubreuil was incited to murder him on his journey to Elba, as well as to put both Jerome and Joseph Bonaparte out of the way and to kidnap the little King of Rome. Although these particular designs were not carried out, there are many other equally remarkable affairs in the story of this adventurer—"exploits in warfare, love rivalry with a king, huge speculations and ruin, foolish and extravagant deeds in the sight of all Paris, assassination and kidnapping missions and plots, the robbery of a Queen's diamonds, miraculous fishing in the Seine, frequent imprisonments and mysterious escapes". Mr. Vizetelly's study leaves us cold, it does not enable us to enter into the wild spirit of those stirring times. It presents a very instructive instance of how the student-mind can present the bare facts without once touching the heart of its subject.

"A Prince to Order." By Charles Stokes Wayne. London: Lane. 1905. 6s.

The initial idea in this story is quite promising. An American stockbroker, under a course of drugs and semi-hypnotic treatment, loses all sense of identity and becomes a passive instrument in a German dynastic plot. He is produced as a missing (and really dead) Crown Prince by a wicked professor who had abducted the aforesaid prince in infancy. Unfortunately when Svengali dies, Trilby can no longer sing: in other words, the growth of the false identity is arrested by the unexpected death of the archplotter. Poor Cary Grey, the victim, comes to himself one fine May day in Paris only to learn that he had embezzled and absconded from New York in January, that at some time in the interval his hair had been dyed, and that his engagement with a charming girl had naturally lapsed. Further, as Cary Grey he is wanted by the American police, while as "Max Arndt" he is in danger of being murdered, or locked up as a lunatic, by worthies who do not desire the return of the missing Crown Prince of Budavia. Friends and foes alike believe in the genuineness of the pretender, and Grey has, of course, unconsciously accepted the rôle. The story of his escape from his difficulties is not as well developed as the beginning seemed to promise, but the book is amusing. We fancy from slight indications that Mr. Wayne is not quite at home on this side of the Atlantic. "Budavia" is very like Ruritania, except that its hereditary dignities include the rank of baronet. But really that order has been so cheapened by recent creations that we need not grudge it to an imaginary petty state in Central Europe.

"Baliol Garth." By Algernon Gissing. London: Chatto and Windus. 1905. 6s.

"Passion delights to torture us with startling pit-falls", we read on the cover of this work. As an epigram, the phrase seems to us unimpressive, as a piece of psychological analysis open to criticism, as an advertisement unnecessary. But we are reassured by the comforting sentence: "But in this case passion was by no means all." The incipient blush leaves our cheek, and we breathe freely. This is not a mere roman passionnel. It is, in fact, an interesting story, though we should sympathise more with the hero had he not confronted his mercantile father-in-law and cried "'Cease, blasphemer!" in a tone which had never issued from his lips before". Garth is tutor to a boy, Ninian Osprey, whose father, a widower, hopes by hastening his marriage with a rich girl to escape bankruptcy and prosecution for fraud. Garth consents to appeal to the lady on his employer's behalf, but repents at the eleventh hour and prevents the marriage. Osprey is ruined and convicted, his son is left penniless, but the young lady buys their country place—and marries Baliol Garth. The position of the hero is certainly liable to misconstruction, not necessarily

blasphemous. When old Osprey is released from prison the curtain falls on a tragedy. In the meantime Mr. Gissing has made a good deal out of the development of the boy Ninian's character, and the married life of Baliol Garth.

"New Samaria, and The Summer of St. Martin." By S. Weir Mitchell. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1904. 3s. 6d.

These two slight sketches would have been better suited to a magazine than to a bound volume, and even the portrait of the author hardly compensates for the tenuity of their substance. In "New Samaria" Dr. Mitchell tells the story of a rich banker stranded without luggage in a Western village, rendered insensible for days by a carriage accident, robbed, and forced to re-enter active life as a penniless tramp. It is very life-like, and makes a fair anecdote, but has not much connexion with literature. The dialogue between an old man and a young girl that ends the volume is even slighter, and we cannot imagine that there is any urgent demand for letterpress of this kind in a permanent form.

"A Bond of Sympathy." By Lieut.-Col. Andrew Haggard. London: Long. 1905. 6s.

Colonel Haggard carries us to the Canadian backwoods, which used to appeal so strongly to boys, but he has chosen to make his story of Crees and Blackfeet, grizzlies and wolverines, subsidiary to a not very convincing tale of love between an Englishman and an Indian maid. Geoffrey Digby, son of a Norfolk squire, is jilted by a heartless neighbour and seeks oblivion in the Far West. (There is something catching in Colonel Haggard's style.) Having had the mischance of saving a pretty woman from drowning, he discovers that she feels for him something more than gratitude, and plunges further into the wilderness. Here he lives with the Indians, becomes famous as "Ready Rifle", and wins the heart of the beautiful Silver Bells. We need not follow the story further. An old French missionary is well portrayed, and the Red Indians seem natural enough, but the book might have been much better written.

"Stingaree." By E. W. Hornung. London: Chatto and Windus. 1905. 6s.

As a popular magazine hero (the stories that make up this volume have already appeared in a widely circulated magazine) Stingaree is not in the running with his numerous predecessors. Stingaree the fancy bush-ranger, the dandy outlaw, has all the conventional qualities of his kind. He is brave, reckless and devil-may-care to a degree that should satisfy the most exacting reader, while he possesses at the same time all those powers of fascination which endear him to the hearts of all the fair ladies whom he meets. A loving heart beats beneath his brutal manner. Truth to tell Mr. Hornung who has much aptitude for sensational fiction has exhibited little ingenuity or originality in these tales. They are of the "made-to-order" type. They rather suggest the author with knit brow cudgelling his brains—"What the devil shall I make the chap do next?"

"The Country House Party." By Dora Sigerson Shorter. London: Hodder and Stoughton. 1905. 6s.

As a method of stringing together a number of disconnected short stories Mrs. Shorter has adopted the somewhat hackneyed device of a country house party the members of which are supposed to narrate in turn. Mrs. Shorter writes well and clearly. If her stories exhibit no particular distinction of style or treatment they are pleasantly told and devoid of offence. Mrs. Shorter possesses a literary conscience and is free from mannerisms. She gains her effects legitimately and without the aid of verbal extravagance or exaggeration. Her stories are eminently womanly and if that is taken to mean that she lacks something of strength and vigour, it must also be allowed that she possesses a certain grace and charm which are too often wanting in writers who possess more virile qualities.

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"Popular Ballads of the Olden Time." By F. Sidgwick. London: Bollen. 3s. 6d.

Sir Walter Scott knew by heart as much ballad literature as would make at least an Iliad. It is probable that most people do not know enough to cover a sheet of note-paper. Popularly "popular ballads" are the most widely neglected form of verse, and their fall from popularity was one of the results of an almost prurient nicety which kecked at the directness of the phraseology of many ballads. The publication of a selection of the best should be a real boon to popular taste, and this second series of "Ballads of Mystery and Miracle and Fyttes of Mirth" is in some ways more valuable than the first series containing "Ballads of Romance and Chivalry". Most of them are less accessible—indeed, some of the best occur in no popular book—and much more illustrative of the elements of folklore. One might have wished further illustration of English folklore, as opposed to Scotch, but everywhere mountains, the homes of superstition, produce the best ballads. The feature of many English ballads is the burden and there is scope for lots of research and ingenuity in extracting meaning from many of them. Mr. Sidgwick, we notice, gives up as hopeless the burden of "The Maid and the Palmer". Perhaps intentional nonsense is the only explanation and one that fits a quaint corner of the English mind. Mr. Sidgwick has written a short introduction and prefaces each ballad with little bibliographic explanatory notes. They are admirably condensed and give in epitome many interesting illustrations of the similarity of themes running through Scandinavian folklore. Old carols are omitted and they are of course accessible in many books, but a good many not in the selections of Mr. A. H. Bullen and Canon Beecching would be worth collection.

"Travels in France during the Years 1787-1789." By Arthur Young. London: Bell. 1905. 2s. net.

We welcome this new edition of a very important book, which is talked of and quoted far more than it is read to-day. Miss Betham-Edwards has supplied footnotes, where needed, and an introductory sketch of the career of Young. The Travels are extremely interesting and once we take up the book we find it hard to put down. Young's description of the feudal rights of the seigneurs may well be read side by side with Alexis de Tocqueville's. He touches on one amazing right which, so far as we recollect the latter does not mention—silence des grenouilles, by which when the lady of the seigneur lies in the people are obliged to beat the waters in marshy districts, to keep the frogs silent, that she may not be disturbed: this duty, a particularly oppressive one, could however be commuted by a fine. Young unfortunately gives few portraits of the leaders of the Revolution. One of the few deals with a French writer in the Assembly whom the editor believes to be Siéyès the Constitution-monger. "His voice is that of a feminine whisper, as if his nerves could not permit such a boisterous exertion as that of speaking loud enough to be heard; when he breathes out his ideas he does it with eyes half closed: waves his head in circles as if his sentiments were to be received as oracles; and has so much relaxation and pretension to ease and delicacy of manner that I wondered by what artificial means such a mass of heterogeneous parts became compounded." As to Young's view on tithes in England, we fear they are those of too many farmers to-day.

"Autobiography of A. D. White." 2 vols. London: Macmillan. 1905. 30s.

Mr. White's autobiography has at any rate this amount of interest that he was for some years Minister in S. Petersburg and knew most of the leading men. But he does not seem to have been quite successful in getting the best out of them and has a great knack of uttering general reflections which conceal the actual stuff. Perhaps the best chapters contain his recollections of Pobedonostzeff, which is followed by an amusing account of his talks with Tolstoi. Tolstoi's chief theme seems to have been a contempt for American literature and he astonished Mr. White by naming some obscure Massachusetts clergyman as the foremost man in American literature. Why will not writers of their own lives understand that the public has not the time to look through, as in this case, a thousand odd pages for the paragraphs of interest? Mr. White is an octogenarian, with a full life behind him, but two hundred pages would have been ample space for it.

"A History of Surrey." By H. E. Malden. London: Elliot Stock. 1905. 3s. 6d.

Mr. Malden does not pretend to compete in this little History of Surrey with the massive works of Bray or Manning which we look for on the lowest shelves of the libraries of London clubs, nor is he a modern Aubrey. His object is simply to give a good general view of the history of the county and to illustrate phases of English history by examples taken from

Surrey. We think in this he succeeds very creditably. Most of his book deals with the political history of the county, but he also touches on its social life and recreation and its industry. Mr. Malden points out a fact about the Hambledon Club not well known—that it drew recruits from both Surrey and Sussex. The Hambledon has often played at Hold Pound in Surrey, and among their best men were William Beldham and John Wells both from Farnham. Stevens the famous Hambledon bowler was also a Surrey man. If Kent sometimes rivalled Hambledon and rose at last to the position of playing All England, it was because the Duke of Dorset tempted away many of the best Hampshire, Sussex, and Surrey men into Kent to join his local forces.

"A Brief Survey of British History." By C. E. Snowden. London: Methuen. 1905. 4s. 6d.

Mr. Snowden's epitome of English History is on the lines of Acland and Ransome's well-known book of facts and dates. He adopts a somewhat similar plan of parallel columns—Government, Parliament, Home, and Foreign events. His scheme of appendices also reminds one of Acland and Ransome, but the information is fuller, and "reasons" and "causes" are tabulated. Mr. Snowden also allows himself the luxury of comment. He is not always happy in this. Writing of Parliamentary reform in England being postponed by the panic which followed the outbreak of the French Revolution, he declares that "the appalling massacres and outrages which stained that world-shaking event did . . . undoubtedly delay Parliamentary reform in this country for a generation". It is not a particularly illuminating judgment. As a rule however he sticks to plain facts, and so far as we have examined his pages he is clear and accurate.

"Highways and Byways of the South." By C. Johnson. London: Macmillan. 1905. 8s. 6d. net.

We do not know why Mr. Johnson should appropriate the South to the part of the world in which he has travelled. He appears to have potted about the country places in Florida and the Southern States for the sake of picturesque articles which are now bound together with many rather good photographs. The gossip is light and sometimes humorous. But Alabama, and Kentucky and the Tennessee mountains do not for an English public absorb "the South".

For this Week's Books see page 30.

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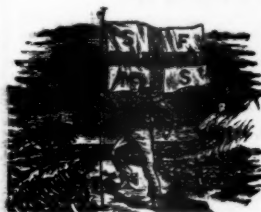
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PUBLIC OPINION.

Among this week's features are:

**IS GERMANY A WORLD POWER?
THE MISSING MILLIONS.
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Cheques should be crossed "London and Westminster Bank," and made payable to the Secretary, Mandeville B. Phillips.

MANDEVILLE B. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

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AUX CLASSES LABORIEUSES.

INCREASING BUSINESS—OPENING OF NEW BRANCHES.

THE eighth annual ordinary general meeting of the Aux Classes Laborieuses, Limited, was held on Tuesday, at the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Moor-gate Place, E.C., Mr. D. Dalziel (chairman of the company) presiding.

The secretary (Mr. R. Gordon) having read the usual notice and the auditors report.

The Chairman said: It is with pleasure that we are able to come before you again this year showing results which may be considered highly satisfactory. You will remember that at our last annual meeting I was able to point out to you that the gross turnover was, by over £30,000, the highest in the history of the business. A reference to the balance-sheet before you will show you that this year the progress continues, and that the gross turnover, as compared with last year, shows a still further increase of 405,404 francs, or about £16,216, while the gross trading profit this year shows an increase of £4,239 9s. 11d. over that of last year. It is a legitimate ground for self-congratulation when you remember that, although this business has been in existence about thirty-eight years—that is to say, for thirty years as a private business and for eight years as a limited liability company—we are able to record that the accounts for the current financial year, which we are assembled here to pass to-day, show that the progress has been (and we hope may continue to be) on the upward grade. The branches opened in the provinces, and to which reference was made in my comments last year, are now beginning to show satisfactory returns, and have fully justified the expectations which were formed in regard to them. The managing director has, at the present moment, further proposals before the board dealing with the opening of branches at Boulogne-sur-Mer, Le Mans, Tours, and Dijon. The question will be most carefully considered. With regard to our interest in Au Petit St. Thomas, you will be pleased, as outlined at our last meeting, to learn that our holding has been reduced to 350,000 francs, and that we have realised the balance with interest. A new and entirely French company has been formed to take over that business, and our interests are protected by the presence on the board of Mr. Debraine and Mr. Rene Cahen, and the company has received, by way of a bonus profit, parts beneficiaries (founders' shares), which, after the payment of the interest on the preference share capital, entitled the company to one-tenth of the net profits of the business. We are informed by Messrs. Debraine and Cahen that the future of the business is very promising. It will no doubt be interesting to you to learn that, since the closing of the books on January 31 last, the gross turnover continues to increase, and up to the end of May the returns are of a highly satisfactory nature. I am not able to give you the exact figures, but the managing director informs me that for the period to June 30 the increase of the turnover, as compared with the similar period last year, amounts to about £20,000. From the figures you have before you it will be seen, therefore, that the business is rapidly expanding; but while, of course, it has been the aim of the directors to increase the business, and, correspondingly, the profits, as much as possible, yet their policy in this direction has ever been based on prudence and a due regard to possibilities. Following this view, therefore, they advocate such a policy as will strengthen the position of the Company yet further. The directors recommend a final dividend on the ordinary shares of 3 per cent., making in all 9 per cent. for the year. This reduction of 2 per cent. on the dividend paid last year is due, as you will have seen, to no inability to pay the higher rate, but because, in pursuance of the policy I have already outlined, the directors deem it advisable to add to the resources of the Company as much as possible, and give it every opportunity of expansion. As you will see by the accounts, a further sum of £10,000 has been charged against profit and loss account, in anticipation of the redemption of debenture stock at 105. This redemption took place in March last, and the debenture debt has now been reduced from £185,000 to £165,960. Your directors again desire to express their appreciation of the efficient management of Mr. Debraine, who is here to-day. Before putting the resolution for the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer, to the best of my ability, any questions. I beg to move: "That the Directors' report, balance-sheet, and accounts for the year ended January 31, 1905, be, and they are hereby, approved, passed and adopted."

Mr. Henry Wolfenden having seconded the motion,

Mr. T. B. Mellor invited the chairman to explain the policy of the board in reducing the dividend by 2 per cent., though they had increased their net earnings by £4,000. Not only was the trading as good as last year, when the board felt justified in paying a dividend of 11 per cent., but it was even better, as they had made a net profit of £4,000 more than last year. It seemed to him that the shareholders ought to know the reasons that induced the board to take what seemed to be a retrograde step of reducing the dividend. That business generally had been very difficult during the past year he thought none of them would doubt; but he believed the general feeling was that they had seen the worst times and that business would probably be better in the future. It was perfectly true that some trading companies had not been able to keep up their dividends; but he did not know of any company which brought before its shareholders a report of such a rosy character, and then asked the shareholders to be satisfied with a final dividend of 3 per cent., instead of 5 per cent. He would like to know what induced the board to take that step. He also inquired the holding of the directors in the ordinary shares of the company.

Mr. Patterson, in congratulating the management in France and Mr. Eugene Debraine upon the very satisfactory results shown in the trading of the past year, said they all knew that the past year had not been a very good one in this country, in France, or, in fact, anywhere in Europe. He desired to call attention to the ever-increasing difference between this company's trading on the one hand, and the net profit earned on the other. He would take, for instance, the expenses of the debenture issue, which, up to the present, had cost the company £16,134. He submitted that the item of leasehold premises and goodwill called for readjustment, and asked for more definite information as to the company's holding in Au Petit St. Thomas, Limited.

Mr. Marshall Jay said that they decided two years ago to open country branches, with the object of increasing their profits, but, though those branches had been opened, their dividend had not increased. As he was a large shareholder, he was not pleased with the reduction in the dividend, and he expected the chairman to explain the reasons of the falling-off. If he understood the position, the difference between the gross profit and the net profit was because they made a large reduction in the sale price of the articles sold, by which they bound the customer more closely to them, and, besides, they were paying off their debentures at the rate of £10,000 a year, thereby improving the condition of the company and the preference shares. He hoped there was some satisfactory reason why the dividend of 11 per cent. should be reduced to 9 per cent., especially as they had made more profit. He also hoped that they would receive some assurance from the chairman that their usual dividend of 11 per cent. would be resumed in the current year.

Mr. Barton Kent said that it had been a puzzle to him why the company had made more net profits and yet were paying a smaller dividend.

The Chairman, in reply to the questions which had been put to the board as to why they thought it advisable to suggest to the shareholders the reduction of the dividend, said he would like to point out that the question of the payment of the dividend was a matter which, according to the articles, rested entirely with the shareholders, and not with the directors. If the board had recommended a policy

to the shareholders, it was because they thought that policy was the best in their interests, and unless they favoured the board with their confidence, and believed that anything put before them was really dictated by a desire to see the continued prosperity of the concern, they would not succeed. With regard to the question as to the reduction of the dividend, he would like to call their attention to the fact that on several occasions suggestions had been made by the shareholders present at the meeting that the directors should pursue a policy of strengthening the company, by having larger reserves, and not paying the dividend up to the hilt. That had been suggested, notably at the last meeting. Although a 9 per cent. dividend was smaller by 2 per cent. than the dividend paid last year, still, 9 per cent. was a very substantial, sound investment for anybody, particularly when they took into consideration the fact that they were going in the direction of far more substantial dividends on their shares in the future. He wanted to call their attention to the fact that if they were taking £10,000 each year out of revenue for the cancellation of the debentures, in the course of five years—and they were well on to that—the amount of Debenture stock which had been redeemed would represent 1 per cent. on the Ordinary share capital—he meant the interest which would have been otherwise paid on the Debentures would be sufficient to cover an additional 1 per cent. on the Ordinary shares. He had no doubt that when that time came the amount available would be still more, if they thought it advisable to increase the dividend on the Ordinary shares. A question had been asked with regard to the balance of the Debenture expenses, £3,226. That was slightly in excess of last year; but it arose from some legal charges which were added by the auditors to the general writing off of the expenses in connection with the Debenture issue. Those items would shortly disappear also, and when they did that amount of money would be at the disposal of the directors again for the purpose of improving the dividend if they thought necessary. With regard to the question asked by Mr. Patterson as to the shares in the Au Petit St. Thomas, Limited, he (the speaker) explained that fully before that gentleman entered the room. That was in respect to a balance due to them for the sale of those shares which had since been paid. With regard to the criticisms that had been made as to the directors' suggestion that the dividend should be reduced to 9 per cent., he was quite sure that it was good policy, and he was equally sure the shareholders would agree with him when they remembered the peculiar nature of their business. They were giving credit to their customers to a very large extent. The expansion of their business meant the expansion of credit, and when he told them they had already increased their turnover this year by £20,000, they must remember that in order to increase the turnover they must deliver £20,000 worth of merchandise to their customers, for which they must pay and give fairly long credit. As their business increased, therefore, the necessity to have further sums at their disposal became urgent, and when they took into consideration that they had had remarkably good results from the opening of their branches in the provinces, they were encouraged to go on opening further branches, and with the opening of those branches a further investment of capital was necessary. He was sure they would agree with the board in thinking that it was better to provide that out of their own resources rather than come to the shareholders for more money. He was convinced that the best way of conducting the business was to provide from time to time the sums necessary to meet the exigencies of the position. He felt confident that they had only to wait a reasonable time and they would find that the suggestion put forward to them to-day would bear ample fruit, and he felt fairly certain that they would enjoy continued and uninterrupted prosperity in the future. He therefore hoped that the report would be unanimously adopted, and that the recommendations of the directors with regard to the dividends would be supported by the shareholders present.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. J. Lee, Messrs. Henry Wolfenden and Rene Cahen were re-elected directors of the Company.

The Chairman proposed that the payment of quarterly dividends on the Preference share capital of the Company, at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, and the payment of the interim dividend on the Ordinary share capital be confirmed.

This was seconded and agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Kent, Messrs. Turquand, Youngs and Co. were re-appointed auditors at a fee of 700 guineas.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors concluded the proceedings.

BONANZA, LIMITED.

From the MANAGER'S REPORT for May 1905.

Total Yield in fine gold from all sources 4,566'829 ozs.
Total Yield in fine gold from all sources, per ton milled 10'567 dwts.

WORKING EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE.

On a basis of 8,700 Tons Milled.

	Cost.	Cost per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Mining	6,211 11 3	0 14 3'355
Development Redemption	870 0 0	0 2 5'000
Crushing and Sorting	367 3 4	0 0 10'139
Milling	1,030 15 7	0 2 4'435
Cyaniding Sands	910 11 4	0 2 1'119
Slimes	406 3 0	0 0 11'304
Sundry Head Office Expenses	332 14 5	0 0 9'178
Profit	10,128 19 11	1 3 3'490
	9,193 16 11	1 1 1'623
	£19,322 16 10	£2 4 5'043
By Gold Account—	Value.	Value per Ton.
Mill Gold	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cyanide Gold	9,902 19 6	1 2 9'185
	9,419 17 4	1 1 7'858
	£19,322 16 10	£2 4 5'043

NOTE.—The 10 per cent. Tax on Profits which is payable to the Government of the Transvaal has not been allowed for in the above figures.

No Capital Expenditure was incurred during the month.

ROBINSON GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

Declaration of Dividend No. 26.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an INTERIM DIVIDEND of 8 per cent. (Eight Shillings per £5 share) has been declared by the Board for the half-year ending 30th June, 1905.

This Dividend will be payable to all Shareholders registered in the books of the Company at the close of business on 30th of June, 1905, and to holders of Coupon No. 21 attached to Share Warrants to Bearer.

The Transfer Books will be closed from 1st to 7th of July, 1905, both days inclusive. The Dividend will be payable to South African registered Shareholders from the Head Office, Johannesburg, and to European Shareholders from the London Office, No. 1 London Wall Buildings, E.C., on or about the 4th of August, 1905.

Holders of Share Warrants to Bearer are informed that they will receive payment of the Dividend on presentation of Coupon No. 21 at the London Office of the Company.

COUPONS must be left **FOUR CLEAR DAYS** for examination, and will be payable at any time on or after the 4th of August, 1905.

By order of the Board,

ANDREW MOIR, London Secretary.

London Office: No. 1 London Wall Buildings, E.C.,
23rd June, 1905.

"The constitution of a mutual Assurance Company forbids a monopoly of control, and the Members can safeguard its interests against anyone who has lax ideas of responsibility."—*Daily Mail*, 16th June.

"The Mutual of New York has no shareholders, and is essentially mutual in its constitution, hence only the interests of the Policy-holders have to be studied."
Financial News, June 6th.

The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York

(RICHARD A. McCURDY, President),

was founded on the mutual principle sixty-two years ago. The whole of the accumulated funds and surplus are the property of the Assured. There are no Shareholders to participate in or control the Company's funds.

£137,000,000 STERLING

has been paid to Policy-holders in sixty-two years, and the Company has in hand

£90,000,000 STERLING

securely invested in unimpeachable securities. On the 31st December, 1904, the market value of the bonds and stocks owned by the Company was

£5,299,936 STERLING

in excess of their cost on the books of the Company.

In the Sixty-first Annual Report it will be found that not one of the bonds held by the Company during the year has defaulted in its interest, and not one of the shares or stock held by the Company has ceased to pay dividends. Among all the kinds of stock held by the MUTUAL, thirteen have paid larger dividends during the last year than before, and only one has reduced its dividends—and that by a fraction of one per cent.

The late Frederick D. Tappan, for the thirty-four years preceding his death President of the Gallatin National Bank, whose judgment as to the value of securities was held in the highest esteem, in his will instructed his executors to invest his estate *only* in "such securities as are included in the list of investments made by the MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY of New York." This is strong testimony of the most practical kind.

CONVINCING TESTIMONY TO CAREFUL MANAGEMENT.

Mr. FRANCIS HENDRICKS, Superintendent of the Insurance Department of the State of New York, in reporting on the 24th September, 1903, as to the result of a very full and complete examination of the condition and affairs of the MUTUAL, made at the Company's own request, prefaces his report by the following striking testimony:—

"I think it fitting to note the unusual extent and thoroughness of this examination, and the evidence which it bears to the conscientious and careful management of this large institution."

A copy of Mr. Hendricks' report, and an itemized list of the Company's securities, can be seen at the Head Office, or at any of the Company's branch offices throughout the United Kingdom.

The MUTUAL'S paid-for business in the United Kingdom for the current year shows a marked increase over the corresponding period of 1904.

Head Office for the United Kingdom: 16, 17 & 18, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.

D. C. HALDEMAN, General Manager.

Bankers:

Bank of England; National Provincial Bank of England.

Solicitors:

Messrs. Freshfields.

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.

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